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# Maclean's

Canada's

Weekly Newsmagazine

July 9, 2001

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**MICROSOFT**  
**BACK IN THE**  
**FAST LANE**

**FILM MASTER**  
**BLASTERS OF**  
**WINNIPEG**

A woman with grey hair and a somber expression holds a mask of a younger woman's face. The mask is held close to her, and her hand is visible. The background is a cloudy sky.

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# This Week

July 9, 2001 Vol. 414 No. 28

**Maclean's**

Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine

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For 25 years before disbanding in 1970, the Edmonton Grays were a winning team. Now former players recall their days of glory.

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# From the Editor

## Here's the news you *can't* have

For people in the news business, the plethora of choices in recent years has made life easier and harder. Consumers are increasingly used to receiving high-quality information freely at little cost. That benefits journalists as much as everyone else, but the challenge for any media institution of maintaining a distinct, credible voice is magnified by that surge of choice, including all-news radio and television, and, of course, the Internet.

The nice thing on the price side is that we succeed or fail on our own merits, with few government constraints. All it takes to start a new national newspaper is Canadian citizenship and an inexhaustible supply of cash—or, as *Canada's Black* has discovered with the money-losing *National Post* Co., over at *The Globe and Mail*, all you can do against such competition is open your wallet, watch profits dry up and hope the war won't run both sides. Over time, it's likely that only one paper can survive—but if so, it will be because of reader preferences, not government fiat.

That's not the case in the television business, where all-news networks begin life encumbered by government imposed by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. Consider CTV Newsweek, which has been ordered by the CRTC to interrupt any live coverage it provides of news events every 15 minutes to roll off the latest headline news. In short, the CRTC is saying, *Newsweek* must build a filter between news and viewers, who cannot be allowed to view an event without regular journalistic intervention.

Leave aside how astonishingly patronizing that is, the CRTC's point is that in 1996, CTV was given a license that specifically said "the licensee will not engage in any live news programming." Under those terms, *Newsweek*, with its present mix of live coverage

(interspersed with headlines every 15 minutes) and programs such as *Mike Duffy's* nightly interview show, may well be bumping up against that restriction. But never mind—the real issue is why those terms stay in place. If the goal is to protect CBC *Newsweek* from competition, that's wrongheaded. CTV and CBC compete against each other nightly on their main networks, and that makes both better. *Newsweek* is a good, well-run network, but why give it a monopoly on live programming?

The CRTC, which does not have jurisdiction over the Internet, increasingly looks as if it's caring about for a way to have continuing impact on the lives of Canadians. Here, it's found one: the decision means that if viewers want to watch, uninterrupted, a live international event not available on *Newsweek*, they should turn to... an American network like CNN, rather than *Newsweek*. As for Canadian events that *Newsweek* isn't interested in, sorry.

There's an old joke around Ottawa that goes like this: if you want to know how to run a small business, then leave the government to run it. In this case, the CRTC has shortened that proverb to decision, if applicable, will deny *Newsweek* a proper chance to get bigger, or better. That's all the news at this hour—subject to interruptions.

*Andy Vachon*

response@thebusiness.ca to comment on From the Editor

### NEWSROOM NOTES

#### The aging game

Early into her research for this week's *Century* story, freelance writer Nora Underwood quickly discovered how little we really know about aging. Scientists told her they understand what happens in the later years, but not how to prevent it. They also said there is no evidence anywhere that the aging process can be reversed. That conclusion is at the core of a little dispute between the two factions studying

aging. On one side are doctors and scientists looking for reliable ways to mitigate the negative impact on patients' health. On the other are so-called anti-aging practitioners who, among other things, focus on reversing the aging process. "I had to be so careful," Underwood says. "There's not a lot of low-key between them."

Associate Editor Susan McClelland, writing about the cost of an aging popu-



McClelland, Underwood

lation, also found broad differences of opinion. Depending on the source, retiring baby boomers will either be rich and active, or sick and problematic for the health-care system. But that debate doesn't seem to stir strong emotions, mainly because most experts don't share the exaggerated views. "People are just guessing what will happen," says McClelland, "and who can predict the future?" We try our best, starting on page 14.

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Did Simpson break the fast in Saudi Arabia?

## Saudi culture

Your cover story on Saudi Arabia was a fair assessment of the culture there ("Prisoner of Riyadh," June 25). But why does the international community condemn the intolerance of the Taliban in Afghanistan, when Saudi Arabia fits the same mould? Are we not employing a double standard? In Saudi Arabia, no churches, synagogues or temples are permitted. Bibles are forbidden within its borders. Furthermore, no religion other than Islam is allowed to be expressed or practiced. "Muslims must observe very strict regulations whenever they enter the public eye. Could the double standard be because of the financial revenue that the West enjoys in oil profits from Saudi Arabia?"

Tony Ciolek, Toronto

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child was born in Vancouver, where you could be pumple with green stripes and not even raise an eyebrow.

Doreen Johnson, Vancouver

We teach our children that black and white are equal, but I guess we are only to talk about equality, not believe it. What about the child's right to his Canadian culture? What makes African-American culture take precedence over that being Canadian?

Marlene Hodgins, Toronto

## The past in context

Mag. Herbert Sutcliffe ("Tale of a witch-hunt," History, June 25) was no doubt a very fine soldier. The ribbon indicates he served his country well in two terrible wars, for which he was decorated. One regrets the termination of a promising career for being gay. But recall the onset of the time—1962, the height of the Cold War and the very year President John Kennedy took the world to the brink of nuclear war in the Cuban missile crisis. The U.S.S.R. was then a mighty nuclear power, well ahead of the West in conventional forces and satellite technology. As the nuclear clock ticked on, they used all of the techniques of espionage, including sexual entrapment, to seek an edge. In this shadowy battle, homosexuals were especially vulnerable, since, in that era, their choices for normal lives were much more limited than those for hetero-

## Dump that tea

I don't get it. In response to the columns by Peter C. Newman ("Lord of his realm," June 1), a number of your readers were offended by Conrad Black renouncing his Canadian citizenship to become a British Lord ("Lord Black," The Mail, June 18). Isn't that the same country that has a British monarch as its head of state? If your readers are offended by Black's action, why not drop the monarch, because a republic and one allegiance as only Canada/Canada should be known, and for Canadians. What can be, what will be, the Queen's head? The Queen's head will make the Queen's head more Canadian.

Michael Summers, San Diego

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# Maclean's News

## A Salute to Canadian Special Olympics



Linda Laidlaw, Special Olympics Canada

Maclean's magazine is proud to support some of the nation's noteworthy athletes, especially at the community level. One that is particularly noteworthy is our connection to the Canadian Special Olympics — an organization that Maclean's has sponsored since 1997.

For over 30 years, Canadian Special Olympics, which is part of a worldwide program, has provided positive, successful experiences through sport for thousands of Canadians with a mental disability. Through their involvement in Special Olympics programs, these athletes have benefited physically, socially, psychologically and emotionally. The sports programs also provide a stepping stone to community integration, educational and

employment opportunities and a new sense of belonging.

Currently, Maclean's sponsors Special Olympics Athlete Rose Laidlaw, born in 1964. She is a Special Olympics member at the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Quebec. Rose won a gold and silver medal in Ladies Solo Figure Skating in Figure Skating.

Maclean's is looking for all Canadian Special Olympics athletes competing in provincial trials for the 2002 National Summer Games in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. In July 2003, the World Summer Games will be held in Quebec, Canada. For more information about the Canadian Special Olympics, log on to [www.sco.ca](http://www.sco.ca).

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# Overture

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Edited by Shanda Decal with Amy Cameron

## Over and Under Achievers

### The boys of summer

*Flames, strike it! Beards, leave rust! And from the Parliament Hill smolder longer: Stuck! beards enough in doubt again*

► **John Henson:** Nova Scotia premier outlaws naming strikes, but poll shows public thinks names' wage demands are reasonable

► **Sam Kinsley:** Ottawa beachside market provides the fuel for San Francisco's Great Tasty Foods' run at the single-woman home-run road

► **John Hensley:** Foreign minister backs AIDS pledge will come this month, after Canada offers embarrassingly late in last week's UN conference

► **Stockwell Day:** Loves yet another M2 Brian Fitzpatrick, and more defections are expected as early as this week

► **Clarence (Big) Miller:** Edmonton goes to \$100,000 issue of beloved son occasion who lived to the city from the 1970s to his death in 1992



## PIN NUMBER PREDICAMENTS

Remember when the only password you needed was the one that granted admittance to the neighborhood clubhouse? Things are a bit more complicated now. It's not uncommon for one person to need as many as 20 access codes—for such things as telephone voice mail, security systems, bank cards, credit cards, Internet and e-mail accounts, individual Web site subscriptions, office access, and computer and laptop computer log-ons.

While there are security risks associated with using the same password for more than one account, many take that risk rather than try to remember 20 different codes. Others are more safety conscious. Many banks require employees to change all their individual passwords on a regular basis, and no repetition is allowed. And lately companies and banks are reminding customers that there are strict password guidelines set out in their customer service agreements. Break the rules and companies don't have to compensate for theft. Here are some common restrictions as well as advice for a memorable but safe password system:

### DON'T USE:

- Passwords used elsewhere
- Your name or those of close relatives
- Your birth date, telephone numbers, addresses
- A number on any ID card that is kept with or near your bank card (e.g., 30% number)

### DO USE:

- A six-character minimum
- A combination of numbers and upper- and lowercase letters
- For names-only codes, convert a password to numbers on an alpha-numeric keypad
- A system for keeping track of changing passwords, such as food preferences in alphabetical order: start with apples and then change to bananas. Or use variations on lines from a childhood song: "Yankee Doodle went to town" (Yvondotown), then "Riding on a pony" (Roodpony)

## OVER THE SHOULDER

**Lorne Gibson**, Saskatchewan premier

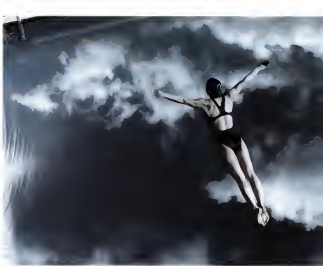
"I am reading *Up! Down! Howlin' in the Field* by Saskatchewan writer author Shanda Beards to all of her writing. Beards captures the tragedy and beauty of the prairie."

**Shanda Beards**, president and chief executive officer of the Capital Health Authority, which oversees health services in the Edmonton region

"I'm about halfway through *Timothy Hadley's* book, *Alone*. He's a favourite. I'm also reading *The Doctor* by Margaret Laurence, which made a huge impression on me when I was read to."

**Glen Murray**, mayor of Winnipeg

"I am reading *Celine Bach from the Edge—New Life for Democrats* by Roberts Brandes Gerts, with Norman Minic. It is a book of innovative thinking on how to represent ordinary citizens, which is exactly what's going on right now in Winnipeg."



## BEYOND MEASURE

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## NO 2-TIER HEALTH CARE?

When Jean Charest voiced an interest in Sweden's privately run hospitals and health-care user fees recently, official Ottawa was taken aback. What could possibly have prompted the PM's remarkable openness to such innovations in public health care? After all, Charest campaigned aggressively just last fall against any hint of diluting Canada's universal medicare tradition, scoring big points by attacking the Canadian Alliance's alleged "two-tier" policy.

One reason Charest might be growing more flexible these days is he knows many Canadians are. Polling by Elean Research Associates Inc.—a firm whose insights into public mood swings are influential in the Prime

Minister's Office—has uncovered a growing willingness among lower-off Canadians to consider out-of-pocket payments for care. While it remains a minority view, the concept has been gaining ground among those who define themselves as middle- or high-income.



Minister's Office—has uncovered a growing willingness among lower-off Canadians to consider out-of-pocket payments for care. While it remains a minority view, the concept has been gaining ground among those who define themselves as middle- or high-income.

Among middle-class Canadians, fewer than a quarter thought they should be able to pay extra for quicker medical care back in 1995. By only this year, more than a third agreed with the idea of pulling out their wallets for faster access. Another reason that Charest might be eager to embrace health reform is of any sort: while Canadians used to blame the provinces for health-care problems, Elton has found they are now just as prone to point the finger at Ottawa.

John Gidycz

## Under the Big Top

### High-flying facts

Step right up, folks! Don't be shy! Here's some big-top trivia taken from Circus—an interactive exhibit at the Ontario Science Centre.

- The highest number of jiggled bulls in the world is 12.
- Clowns are called "Joey" in tribute to the grandfather of clowning, Joseph Grimaldi (1779-1837). Grimaldi also invented the colourful, baggy, frilly costumes many clowns wear.
- New and naive circus employees are called "The First of May."
- "Lotus" is the term used for loud toms who arrive early to watch the circus unload.
- In photographs, an elephant's trunk must be raised for good luck.
- "Stills," in circus talk, are the employees who stand in lineups to make business look good.
- Jules Lévesque (1838-1870) not only invented the flying trapeze circus act at the age of 21 but the piece of foreshadowing



Put up your trunk for good luck

clothing: trapeze artists still wear today. • The word "jumbo" comes from a male African elephant by that name who toured with the Barnum & Bailey Circus. In 1885, Jumbo died when hit by a train in St. Thomas, Ont. It took 150 people to remove him from the tracks.

## Yanks pull a Mercer

Wasn't he a star, but at least we're not delusional. On June 26, a crew from NBC's Today Show arrived in Halifax to ask Canadian TV a few questions: Is it like *My 22* Minister segment? "Talking to Americans?" While Canadian host Rick Mercer has inspired Americans to pull the red and green when it comes to their northern neighbors, the Today Show crew had the opposite experience. Among the questions posed in front of Nova Scotia's provincial legislature and on a busy street: Did you hear that in order to vote in

ing. "You guys are doing a Rick Mercer, aren't you?" NBC producer Tom Mazzanti told a local newspaper. "More people got the joke than not. But on the other hand, some people were just too dumb to get it. If you need the Falls, go ahead and take them."



Mercer, who is currently shooting *Made in Canada* episodes, wasn't surprised when Canadians didn't fall for it. "It's our job, we can pull on them. If it doesn't work, it's reverse."

Did you hear that in order to vote in



# The dark side of selling

They amount up all over the place this time of year. Like dandelions.

Yard sales. Garage sales. Recycling for fun and profit. It's become something of a national pastime, spending a Saturday morning hawking castoffs in your driveway. It seems everyone we know dabbles in this curbside commerce at least once each summer. My wife and I have always been more the Goodwill/Sally Ann type when it comes to clearing out the closets and basements. But when our enterprising friends made a full-blown chaise for giving the stuff away, we finally caved. Last summer, we decided to stage our own sale.

Instead of sucking our intentions onto neighborhood telephone poles, we opted for the *Field of Dreams* philosophy—"If you build it, they will come." As it turned out, we hit on the nerve. Saturday dawned with a few other families on our street were holding sales. Suddenly, we became part of a larger picture—the major sale. Other folks had erected signs saying the sale started at 8 a.m. The first car pulled up before the sun had cleared the trees. That was our first lesson: Yard sales have yard sales, posted signs mean nothing. (Some early birds, we were told, have been known to knock on doors of suburban sales the night before to try and snag the best bargains.) By 7:30 a.m., the street was lined with vehicles.

Natively, we'd assumed yard sales attract little old ladies with time on their hands, college students or the poor in need of saving money. Not so. The word of glowing SUVs attracted our flunkies. "I wanted our these people were looking for two things—stuff for the cottage and buried treasures. Out they came, sunglasses perched on their heads, laptops in hand, noses in the air. They didn't speak to us as much as around us. "Who on earth would wear that?" they'd say, with a crinkle of the lip. "Look at this. Can you imagine?" At first, I thought it was merely a ploy to bring down the price, but as the day wore on I realized that some people really are that rude.

Never having worked in retail, I didn't know a lot about sales, but I've always understood the basic premise: works this way: buy for a dime, sell for a dollar. With a yard sale, the

reverse applies. A \$730 exercise bike might go for \$25. A \$60 dog crate might fetch \$10 if you're lucky. And if there's any doubt, the haggling will set you straight. If you price an item at a dollar, they'll offer 50 cents. If it's 50 cents, they're not for a quarter. We had marked our stuff at bargain-basement prices just to get rid of it, so most things, 50 cents or less, children's books, 25 cents or five for a dollar. Sell they did.

Their expectations were on the high side. To set out a record vinyl collection, priced at \$1, with a sign that said, "Does not work. Pans or repair?" Would-be buyers swarmed to it, only to recall in disgust when they read the sign. "Oh, it doesn't work?" Like I'd sell it for \$1 if it did?

Guns give 'em credit, though, people found potential in the odder places. One woman bought our old piano stool to use as a garden bench. Another woman purchased a former pet bed for her child's doll. She wanted to use it for a dog chain, which she intended to use for suspending plants.

While many sought bargains, some were on the hunt for a "find." We had one such piece, an antique picture frame. It'd been motivated by money, we'd have taken it to a dealer and sold it for what it was worth. But we figured maybe it would breathe the spirit of a lovely person. Indeed, it caught the eye of a woman with ruffled hair and Italian shades. "You could probably use dollar signs pop up in her eyes as she gazed at the frame. Hating it, cool, to us not to top the robot to the treasure they were going after, she scanned over trying to look as if she could take it or leave it. I was tempted to refuse the sale ("How did that get in there?"), but I figured I should follow the "finders, keepers" rule. At least she didn't have the gall to haggle over the price. When the deal was done, she practically slipped down the drive.

Yard-sale season has descended again, but we won't be taking any part. True, it may be good way to clean out your basement and raise a bit of cash, but it also brings out the darker side of human nature. Sure, lots of people love these sales. And some folks think of dandelions as flowers. But I'd happily sell through summer blissfully oblivious to both.

Stephen Nicholls of *Windy City* summered through his own yard.



Natively, we'd assumed that yard sales attracted little old ladies or students

## PASSAGES

**Leaving:** After eight years on CTV's *Canada AM*, Valerie Pringle announced she will be leaving the morning television show. Pringle, who co-hosts the show with Dan Matheson, will stay at the network, working on projects for CTV's specialty channels.

The five-time Gemini Award nominee first started in broadcast journalism at Toronto's CFBO radio station in 1973. By 1981, she had her own show, the *Pringle Program*. Three years later, she joined CBC-TV's *Midday* as co-host, then moved to *Canada AM* in 1993. Pringle also co-hosted *W-Five* from 1996 to 1999. In her new position at CTV, the 47-year-old mother of three will help launch several digital channels, develop a series for their travel channel as well as host the program *Philosophy*. Her successor at *Canada AM* was not announced.

**Dead:** Jack Lemmon was born in a Newton, Mass., hospital elevator on Feb. 8, 1925. The son of a bakery executive, Lemmon was educated at Harvard before launching into a career of entertainment. His best-known roles were in films that co-starred the late Walter Matthau: *The Odd Couple* (1968), *The Front Page* (1974) and *Grumpy Old Men* (1993). Lemmon won two Academy Awards—best supporting actor in 1955 for *After the Thin Red Line* and best actor in 1975 for *Savvy*. The Tiger, Lemmon, 70, died of complications from cancer in a Los Angeles hospital.

**Retired:** Ray Bourque, the highest-scoring defenseman in NHL history, will go out on top. After 22 seasons, the 40-year-old Bourque announced his retirement after finally capturing the Stanley Cup. The Montreal native spent his entire career with the Boston Bruins before



requesting a trade to the Colorado Avalanche, which was completed in March, 2000. When the *Avalanche* beat the New Jersey Devils for the Cup in June, Bourque's dream came true: "It means I retire as a champion," he said, adding he's planning to spend more time with his wife and three children.

**Leaving:** McGill history professor Desmond Morton is vacating the post of director of the university's Institute for the Study of Canada. Morton was personally chosen for the job by Charles Bronfman, who created the centre in 1994 with a \$10-million endowment. Morton, a 63-year-old Calgary native, author of 31 books and a specialist in the Canadian military, will continue to teach at the university. He is being replaced by 36-year-old McGill political science professor Antonia Maino.

**Split:** After nearly four years, Julia Roberts, 33, and Benjamin Brins have ended their relationship. No other details of the breakup were released. Brins, 37, formerly of the NBC legal drama *Law & Order*, attended the Academy Awards in March with Roberts when she won the best actress Oscar for *Erin Brockovich*.

**Dead:** The childhood of Yvonne Dionne, one of the famous Québécois beauties to Gallienne, Ont., mesmerized the world. After their births in 1936, Yvonne and her four identical sisters—Marie, Emilie, Cécile and Annette—were removed from their family home by the Ontario government. For nine years they were put on display at what was dubbed Queenland, an open compound that drew more than five million visitors. As a result, Yvonne, like her two surviving sisters (Emilie died in 1954 and Marie in 1970), fiercely guarded her privacy as an adult. At 25, she tried to take her vows to become a nun but was named down by the church. She later worked as a clerk in a Montreal library. Yvonne, 67, died of cancer in a Montreal hospital.

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## TYRANT IN THE DOCK

The war leader in the "October of the Balkans" used raw violence to crush his opponents. But now, former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, 58, architect of the Balkan conflicts that produced Europe's most inhuman atrocities since the Second World War, will enter a courtroom and face the rule of law. Milosevic is the first former head of state to face trial at the UN War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague. He was turned over to tribunal representatives in Gorazde, Bosnia, by the Netherlands aboard a Belgian plane and delivered by helicopter before dawn to a black, walled prison. The charges against Milosevic include crimes against humanity, in connection with the slaughter of civilians in Bosnia, and will likely be expanded to include genocide over atrocities committed in wars he waged against Bosnia and Croatia in the early 1990s.

## STOCK'S 'WRECKING CREW'

Canadian Alliance Leader Stockwell Day warned party dissidents they face expulsion if they try to form their own party. So far, 11 Alliance MPs, whom Day called the "wrecking crew," have left the caucus. But even as he issued the ultimatum, Day was questioned about the accuracy of the release authored by his new chief of staff, Jim MacLachlan, who claimed to be a senior campaign adviser to Ontario Premier Mike Harris in 1999 and B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell in last month's election. Spokesmen for both premiers said MacLachlan had no such role.

## A golden opportunity

Barrick Gold Corp. of Toronto is buying the owner of the olden American gold mine, Homestake Mining Co., in a deal worth \$3.5 billion. Barrick will become the second-

largest gold producer in the world after South Africa's AngloGold Ltd., with an annual output of six million ounces.

## Warship threat

The Canadian frigate HMCS Winnipeg was ordered to remain at sea after the Pentagon warned that terrorist attacks against Western forces in the region were imminent. The ship, with a crew of 225, was

due to dock in Dubai in the Persian Gulf. The Pentagon fears a repeat of the suicide bombing in Wexon last October that killed 17 sailors aboard the USS Cole.

## School tax break

In a 50 to 35 vote, the Ontario legislature passed a controversial bill approving tax credits for parents with children in private schools. The plan will give parents a tax credit of up

to \$3,500 per child per year by 2006. The initiative was soundly condemned by critics who believe the measure will divert money away from the cash-strapped public-school system.

## AIDS war declared

The United Nations launched a sweeping plan to reverse the worldwide AIDS epidemic, which has killed 22 million people since 1981. An agree-

## MILITANTS IN WHITE

When an illegal walkout didn't achieve their goals, health-care workers in Nova Scotia threatened to resign en masse. After two days of protest to back demands for better wages and working conditions,

5,100 members of the Nova Scotia Government Employees Union—including 2,200 nurses—returned to work at Halifax-area hospitals. But they remained angry that John Henson's Conservative government passed Bill 66, taking away



their right to strike. The bill could be extended to the Nova Scotia Nurses' Union, where 4,400 members, working in mostly rural regions, will be in a legal strike position on July 10. They are also considering mass resignations. Set against in Alberta had a better idea. They risk severance pay in Nova Scotia and British Columbia, where nurses are also in a protected contract dispute with the provincial government, expressing solidarity—and urging colleagues to join them. The headline, "Alberta desperately needs you"



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ment rushed at the end of the three-day debate calls on governments to create national AIDS programs to reduce infection rates. Western countries also announced new contributions to a global AIDS fund administered by the United Nations. Canada pledged \$75 million to the fund while the United States offered \$1.5 billion.

## Riots in Macedonia

A NATO-brokered peace deal sparked riots in the Macedonian capital of Skopje. The rioting followed a NATO decision to transport 300 ethnic Albanian fighters from a suburb of Skopje to a mostly ethnic Albanian area to the north. Ethnic Albanians have been fighting for an independent state in Macedonia, which borders Kosovo, since last February. The NATO move was designed to bring both sides to the bargaining table.

## Suspect extradited

After granting assurances the death penalty will not be imposed, a French court approved the extradition to the



Knapp, leading for three

United States of James Knapp, who is accused of shooting two North American abortion doctors. He is charged with murdering Andrew, N.Y., gynecologist Barnett Shapiro in October, 1998, and with attempted murder in the 1995 shooting of Hamilton doctor Hugh Shaw. Canadian police also want to question him in connection with the shooting of two other physicians. Gary



## UNCERTAIN PEACE:

As Palestinian demonstrators marched in towns across the West Bank in protest, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell headed to Tel Aviv. Powell attempted to convince Israel and the Palestinian leadership to ease hostilities while peace negotiations proceed. But optimism was promptly shattered when a Jewish settlement was burned.

Removal of Vancouver's 1994 and Jacki Fairman of Windsor in 1997.

## Reversible vasectomy

Health Canada approved a clinical trial for a male contraceptive implant that may be as effective as a vasectomy. Ten per cent of men who have vasectomies later try to have them reversed, often unsuccessfully. The device, comprising two tiny plugs that block sperm, can later be removed.

## Out of money

Two troubled Canadian companies filed for bankruptcy protection. Burlington, Ont.-based Linflow Inc., operator

of Greyhound bus lines and North America's familiar yellow school buses, has long been in the red due to a spate of expensive acquisitions. Vancouver's 360networks Inc., headed by former Microsoft chief financial officer Grog Maffei, got caught in the tech downturn as demand for fibre-optic networks plummeted.

## No work like it

The Canadian Forces will be raising the mandatory retirement age from 55 to 60. Budget cuts since the 1990s have reduced the number of senior personnel to just under 60,000 from 100,000. The

new retirement age, expected to take effect in early 2002, is part of a larger bid to head off a manpower shortfall. The Forces will also allow officers to be hired temporarily.

## Victory in turf war

In a decision that will have ramifications across Canada, the Supreme Court ruled municipalities have the right to ban the use of pesticides on lawns. In 1999, the Montreal suburb of Hudson reversed the use of pesticides, but two Quebec landscaping companies challenged the bylaw. The court ruled the bylaw falls within provincial anti-regulating municipalities.

## THE LAST INTEREST RATE CUT?

For the sixth time this year, the U.S. Federal Reserve Board dropped its key interest rate, this time by a quarter of a percentage point. The rate now stands at 3.75 per cent, down from 4 per cent in January, the most aggressive action by the Fed in two decades. The central bank used slowing growth and declining U.S. profits and capital spending. The latest cut, smaller than those, was seen as a signal that the Fed is nearing the end of its campaign to stimulate growth. Economists predict just one more rate cut when the Fed meets in August.



It isn't enough that people are already living longer. We want to live better, too

After two years of following a diet and exercise program, the 36-year-old Petty wants to "peak at 60 and hold it. And it's so possible!"

BY NORA UNDERWOOD

**T**he quest for eternal youth or immortality has been documented down the ages in epic poetry, Greek mythology, literature, art, gothic horror novels, even in *Harry Potter*. Man has searched for fountains of youth and philosopher's stones, drunk magic potions, basted in sacred water, slept with virgin young women, ingested all manner of questionable substances—all in a vain attempt to forestall the inevitable. It's the curse of being members of the only self-aware species: we spend a third of our lives sleeping, and too many waking hours pondering death and all its implications. "Even when we're healthy, we know we're going to die," says Arthur Schaefer, director of the Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. "And, of course, most of us cope with that with denial."

It isn't enough, apparently, that we're already living longer. Thanks to the discovery of antibiotics, an improved infant-mortality rate, cleaner water and better housing, the average life expectancy in North America has climbed to about 77 years in 2001 from less than 50 a century ago. But that hasn't mollified the masses. During the past decade, the market for supposedly age-defying products such as diets, lotions and drugs has exploded. And why not? Nearly half of all baby boomers have already turned 50, so if there's a way to help preserve youth and vigor in that most Peter Pan-ish of generations, there's a pile of money to be made. "Baby boomers have grown up with the idea that retirement can do anything and that they can do anything they want," says Dr. Mitchell Herman, director and president of the Keene Longevity Research Institute in Phoenix, Ariz. "They've worked hard and they're enjoying their lives and they're in no hurry to shake off this mortal coil."

But life isn't as simple as that. Modern medicine may cure as many more once-deadly diseases, but by living longer, we are more susceptible to age-related ailments, such as osteoporosis, diabetes, heart

# Cheating Time

disease and Alzheimer's. "Chronic disease perhaps don't wipe us out," says Schaefer. "But they cripple our lives with pain, make us dependent on others, make us feel less than fully human."

So the focus for scientists, doctors and alternative medical practitioners is on learning how to promote healthy longevity. They don't claim to have a magic cure for aging, but with a slew of self-help books, lifestyle programs and treatments, they do offer the tantalizing possibility of a slower, smoother and healthier path to the finish line. And they have plenty of enthusiastic subscribers. Toronto author and broadcaster Dini Perry, 56, gives a lot of credit for her good health to a diet and exercise program she has been following for the past two years. "My personal goal is I'm going to peak at 60 and hold it," says Perry. "And it's so possible."

Not everyone is so sure. Certainly, researchers know more than ever about how we age and how that process might be influenced in the future, but they also know that what they're discovering is just the beginning. As a result, there are new strains on the already uneasy relationship between doctors and researchers in the traditional sciences and those in the more alternative field known as anti-aging medicine. One side requires proven results and government approvals; the other is already in the marketplace offering products and ser-

vice, and he's disdainful of the ponderous approach of conventional medicine. "They have to see it 20 times and it has to be blessed by the American Medical Association and the Food and Drug Administration and they have to get a note from the Pope saying it's OK," says Klatt of the researchers. To them, anti-aging medicine is not part of the orthodoxy and as such should be dismissed.

Sometimes lost in the backbiting, the question remains: how much impact can we have on aging? Klatt and the approximately 10,000 anti-aging practitioners from 66 countries who are members of NAM focus on early detection and prevention, treatment of age-related diseases and reversal of the aging process. At facilities such as the Buresford in Toronto—the first clinic of its kind in Canada—the staff uses diagnostic tools from various disciplines to determine a patient's health. Tests are run to assess everything from sun-related skin damage and hair growth to hormone levels, biomarkers for certain diseases and cognitive functions.

The anti-aging team, which includes a medical doctor, a naturopath, a behaviour therapist, a massage therapist and a skin-care specialist, then devises a special program for the client, which could include anything from prescription medicine and nutritional or hormonal supplements to a dietary, exercise and massage regimen.

## RESEARCHERS STUDYING AGING SAY THEY ARE CLOSE TO BREAKTHROUGHS THAT MAY BEGIN TO SHOW BENEFITS BY THE TIME YOUNGER BABY BOOMERS START TO RETIRE

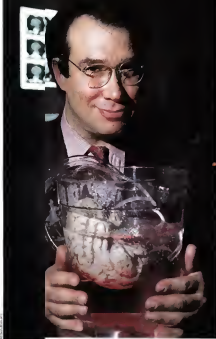
views that may—or may not—have the desired effects.

The feud is getting nasty. Some scientists, including Dr. Jay Olanowsky, a research scientist at the Center on Aging at the University of Chicago, are eager to distance themselves from those involved with anti-aging medicine, particularly Olanowsky's niece, the inimitable "chick-lit" and quick-selling author of "who got humped in with those serious alternative medicine practitioners." To that end, Olanowsky and his colleagues plan to submit a paper to both a medical journal and *The New York Times* this summer detailing exactly what is and is not known about the aging process. The relationship between the groups also strained that Michael Reed, who edits a science-based medical journal on aging in *Asia*, Mich., is lobbying to change the name of his publication. "I'm the editor of the *Journal of Anti-Aging Medicine*," says Reed, "and there's no such thing."

Then there is Ronald Klatt, president of the Chicago-based *American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine* (NAM) and seemingly the prime target of conventional scientists' scorn. He says the whole controversy issue has everything—"anger, romance, science, politics, backstabbing, you name it." Klatt doesn't like being humped in with hucksters any more than the scientists do. He wants the explanation that all anti-aging practitioners are



Olanowsky (left) and most other conventional researchers dispute the promises made by anti-aging proponents such as Klatt (above)



Perry is a client of the Buresford and a self-described "power girl for longevity." In fact, Perry says her treatment—which so far have cost \$5,500 and which consist, among other things, of nutritional supplements and an exercise plan—have not only improved her mental ability but also her shape. "I look in the mirror and go, 'That's amazing,'" she adds. Her mother suffered the last few years of her life from the effects of strokes. "I've seen older women who are crippled with osteoporosis, hunched over, smoked out, heart attacked, and my decision was I'm not going there," says Perry, "and there's no longer a need to go there."

Some of the focus of anti-aging medicine involves retooling

certain hormones such as DHEA, human growth hormone, estrogen and testosterone to more youthful levels. (In Canada, neither DHEA nor human growth hormone is available for these purposes.) In 1990, the *New England Journal of Medicine* published a study in which growth hormone produced successful results on older men in a veterans' hospital. Muscle mass increased and fat decreased, vision improved and fat visceral activity. The practice spread: actor Jack Bauer and director Oliver Stone reportedly got regular injections of growth hormone in their beds to hold back the aging. Another anti-aging strategy is using supplements of antioxidants such as vitamins E and C, alpha-lipoic acid and CoQ10 to help fight free radicals in the body, which are known to contribute to the aging process and to the development of certain diseases.

**P**roponents tout the treatments as effective. "One problem with anti-aging medicine is there's no problem with anti-aging medicine," exclaims Klatt. "This is a win-win-win-win scenario for everybody except for those few people who are sitting on top of the pyramid. They're stuck in the old paradigm." Still, Klatt dismisses the "magic spray hucksters who have hypochondria this and that" and insists, instead, that everything he and his colleagues teach and endorse is based on research that has been published in scientific journals. "DHEA, melatonin, human growth hormone, antioxidants, nutrients—none of these are experimental drugs," he says. And in a dig at traditionalists, he adds, "They claim that all these therapies are dangerous. So when are the bodies?"

But most scientists are cautious. "There appeared to be some initial benefits from injections of growth hormone, but they're claiming that they will help you live longer, and actually there's no experimental evidence from animals to suggest that the use of growth hormone in animals has a life-shortening effect," says Olanowsky. "Surprise, surprise." In addition, he says, there is no evidence at all that consuming antioxidants will delay aging. "Any time anyone claims you can stop or reverse the aging process, they're lying to you," says Olanowsky. "There's no scientific evidence that anything exists today to stop or reverse the aging process."

There are treatments that both sides say are capable of slowing the aging process, but they are radical. One, by dousing caloric intake, has typically extended life expectancy by 30 to 40 per cent in the species on which it has been attempted. At the National Institutes of Aging in Bethesda, Md., rats, mice and monkeys have been fed fortified diets reduced in calories by as much as 50 per cent of the norm. The animals remained active and healthy compared with their free-eating counterparts, and the onset of age-related disease was delayed. But the experiment has never been adequately done on humans and, because of its severe impact on the average diet, isn't seen as a viable approach. "If people can't even stop smoking, how do you expect them to control their caloric intake?" says Huber Warner, the

NIA's associate director for the biology of aging program. Still, the studies have provided the reinforcement that the aging process is not fixed.

Another promising approach is gene alteration. "Even within single species, there are variations that lead to change in both body size and lifespan," explains Kronold's Harman. "Giant Danes are cranking along at the age of 7, a Scottish terrier is chipping along at the same age. The idea that genes determine longevity was out there for anybody who wanted to look at it with clear eyes. If only it were that simple. Which genes are they?" he adds. "We don't know that."

Researchers have, however, used genetic intervention to es-

And if we get extension of life as a benefit, even better."

But what if that actually happens? Will the consumers who seek stomach the idea of genetically modified foods be willing to subject themselves to similar manipulations for a chance to live a little longer? And who will benefit? If a longer, healthier life becomes something that is available only to the rich, as Harman notes, "there's going to be hell to pay." Then there's the question of retirement age, of what all the healthy older people are going to do and about who's going to support them when they become unable to support themselves. And what if life expectancy increases but the birth rate remains the same? Simple. "The planet," says Harman, "will become a nursing home only."

Just because science hasn't found any easy answers yet doesn't mean people shouldn't begin debating the issue. Harman believes researchers are so close to breakthroughs that there will be benefits even for younger baby boomers. Fossil argue that the understanding of the aging process will grow dramatically in the next few years, but it's more cautious about predicting when people will begin to feel the benefits. "When did we ever get that? Most people would say 1954 because that's when the commercial vaccine

hit the streets," says Fossil. "If we go forward 100 years and we poll people on the issue and we ask, 'When did we cure aging?' I think they'll give us a number some time in the next decade." In the meantime, there are lessons to be learned from the people who live on the 161 islands that make up Okinawa, a prefecture of Japan. The population of 1.3 million includes more than 400 centenarians. That means that 34 of every 100,000 citizens



King (right) says, "Don't spend the last third of your life in a nursing home."

and the lifespan of their lives, it is whether these discoveries will have any impact on humans is unknown. "What we're doing has the potential to have a tremendously positive impact on public health," says Okunaka. "Even a minor slowdown in the aging rate for humans would have a huge impact on delaying many of the fatal and nonfatal diseases of aging. That's what we're trying to do—improve quality of life as a primary goal.

## THE COSTS OF AN AGING POPULATION

By Susan MacLennan

May Hibernia Currier started a new life—several new lives, really—after she turned 65. In 1987, the founder of the children's book publishing company Tundra was elected to a four-year term as mayor of Westmont, in greater Montreal. Since then, she has mounted theatre productions in Montreal, Detroit and New York City. She kept her hand in politics as grandmother of her son was deeply involved in Westminster's battle against the Quebec government's plan to merge Montreal with neighbouring municipalities.

She found time to travel abroad, to China, India and Brazil, among other destinations. And she has survived a battle with breast cancer. "I love being a senior," says the 77-year-old Currier. "I have so much freedom after raising a family for 35 years. I am happy to be alive and to be able to contribute."

While Currier is not by any means the originator will be the picture of tomorrow's active senior. By 2021, an estimated 20 per cent of Canadians will be over the age of 65—up from 12 per cent in 1998. And those seniors will likely be living healthier and longer lives than any preceding generation. But what will that demographic shift do to Canadian society? Some experts predict that more seniors than ever will be wealthy consumers of everything

from vacations to retirement properties. Others warn that the ill and poor in the elderly population will clog Canada's social systems. "When talking about an aging population, there is a tendency to be overly optimistic or to be apocalyptic," says Michael J. Prince, associate dean of human and social development at the University of Victoria. "Both views tend to be exaggerated."

Prince is particularly dubious about claims of great riches among future retirees. Many baby boomers will be cushioned by lucrative savings plans, but in 1995, only 35 per cent of top five per cent of RSPs, and although the contribution amounts have increased over the past decade, so, too, have pre-retirement withdrawals for reasons such as downpayments on homes. Prince also warns

Experts predict there will be more active seniors such as Cutler (above), but others will struggle in the 'golden years'.

have reached or exceeded the age of 100, compared with the five to 10 per 100,000 Americans who manage to do so. The average life expectancy in Okinawa is 81.2, compared with 79 in Canada. Cause of death, more often than not, is old age coronary heart disease, breast cancer and prostate cancer are rare.

Researchers spent 25 years studying the Okinawan way of life. Last month, three of those investigations released a book, *The Okinawa Program*, which details how Okinawans eat low-calorie diets full of vegetables, complex carbohydrates, soy foods and fish, how they get regular exercise, how they have strong spiritual lives, and how they benefit from excellent social and community support systems. Younger Okinawans who have adopted more modern Japanese or North American lifestyles, say the authors, are showing a general decline in health.

Give Wilson again. Since 1998, the 43-year-old mother of four in Victoria has cut sugar, refined carbohydrates and wheat out of her diet while adding in more water, fruit, grains, vegetables, vitamins and antioxidant supplements. With newfound vitality, Wilson took up competitive sailing and has won numerous medals in double sculls at masters regattas throughout North America. "I have been able to accomplish much more than I ever would have dreamed," she says. "I can perform on a new and much higher level. There are 80-year-old women who are still swimming, and I'm going to become one of them someday. That ambition isn't so far-fetched. Science may or may not hand us another 30 or 40 years in play with, but the important fact is that we already have the information we need to live long, healthy lives. Like Wilson, we just have to choose to use it."

Given the choice, would you rather extend your life with no guarantee of good health, or live the average lifespan in good health? [www.macleans.ca](http://www.macleans.ca)

that the number of people with occupational pension plans has been declining since 1990, largely because of the trend towards corporate downsizing. Nowadays, less than 60 per cent of the labour force is covered by a company pension. "The reality," says Rod Beaulieu, a social policy and population expert at the University of Western Ontario in London, "is that many seniors will have to continue working. Retirement age may no longer mean 65, but 75 or even greater."

They shouldn't have much trouble finding work. Experts foresee greater opportunities for older workers in part-time and flexible-schedule jobs. "There will be a tightening of labour markets, fewer employees, and companies will be looking for ways to attract back the older workers," says Prince. "There is a

lack of corporate wisdom in a senior employee. And some academics now play down fear over the impact on public pension plans. "The demands of an aging population won't be anything we can't handle," says Lynn McDonald, a University of Toronto professor in the faculty of social work. "There will be fewer children in support, for one thing, and everything will balance out."

That's a minor view than other experts hold. They anticipate big bumps in the road ahead, particularly for health care. "There has been a tremendous increase in life expectancy over the past century, but it's not always healthy life expectancy," says Rejean Hébert, scientific director of Sherbrooke, Que.'s Institute of Healthy Aging. "The challenge will be to compress the disability period pre-

ceding death." This does appear to be happening with males, but not females, Hébert says. A recent Quebec health survey found that elderly men experienced poor health in the last four years of their lives, and women generally were in poor health for the last seven years.

Women are farther disadvantaged on the economic front. Women who are 65 and over have the lowest average annual income of any age-group in the country at \$16,000—which is \$10,000 less than their male counterparts. Future female seniors may not fare much better. In 1997, the average annual salary of working women was \$19,800, just 62 per cent that of men, a disturbing statistic given that pensions are salary-based. For some, it seems, the so-called golden years may not be so shiny.

# DOWN BUT NOT OUT

BY KEN MACQUEEN in Prince Rupert

In the Pacific Mennet's Memorial Park, near the Museum of Northern British Columbia in Prince Rupert, stands a low yellow brick wall. It was built in snow-laced on individual and clay tablets are the names of more than 100 men who have died on the Pacific Ocean after leaving the shelter of this deepwater port, tucked below the Alaska Panhandle. Most were fishermen, a few crewed freighters, or they flew biplanes.

It's instructive to spend a few moments with the dead. A debate rages over a new sailing season for the battered economy of the province's north coast. Banned under the seabed off the Queen Charlotte Islands, a few boats will from Prince Rupert, may be the richest unexplored oil deposit on the West Coast of Canada. Critics of offshore drilling say the prospect of untold riches has blinded us in this hard region to the potential cost of punching holes in the ocean floor. The memorial wall says otherwise. To live there is to know there is a price paid for everything taken from the ocean. It is a calculated risk, whether the reason is fish or freight or oil.

Even in Prince Rupert there is no universal agreement about the wisdom of building gas wells and oil rigs on the nabulex, towering seas of Skeena Strait. There is, however, a growing consensus that the provincial government of Gordon Campbell is unlikely to ignore: if offshore drilling is a calculated risk, it is time to start calculating.

It's 6:30 a.m. and Alexander Hickey—once upon a time of St. Mary's Bay, Nfld.—stands on the wharf of the J. S. McMillan Fisheries plant in Prince Rupert, awaiting a Tim Hortons coffee after 5½ days spent chasing and snapper off British Columbia's central coast. The weather was grand, the fish cooperative. Plans were set for a good

ant hose to vacuum almost four tonnes of catch from the holds of the 21-m dragger Keweenaw. It will be sorted, filleted and shipped fresh to U.S. markets.

On a morning like this—contemplating a creel full of fish—Hickey is in good luck. The Pacific has proved a godsend for Hickey, who turned his back on Newfoundland in 1993 after the collapse of the cod fishery. "I can make more in two months here than I can make there in 12," says Hickey, his face creased and weathered by 27 years of fishing.

His commitment is a rare enough thing in Prince Rupert, a seafaring city riding out the economic equivalent of a perfect storm. It is pounded from all sides by a devastated salmon fishery, by a failing forest sector, by plummeting income in the new materials and resources that flow through its port. Hickey says offshore oil would help the local economy as much as Hibernia has assisted Newfoundland. "It would boost the town, that's for sure," he says. "The never bothered with it myself, but I've two sons into the oil." One is a driller and the other a supervisor on rigs in Alberta. "Of course," he concludes. "No one wants to see a spill."

The anticipated undersea hydrocarbon reserves may not even be recoverable. Fourteen exploration wells were drilled with inconclusive results in the late 1960s. A moratorium by the B.C. government stopped further exploration because of a still-unresolved dispute with the federal government over jurisdiction of the resource. The federal government imposed its own moratorium in 1972 because of environmental concerns. Those bars were under review in the late 1990s after extensive public consultation. But the political will to lift them vanished when more than 250,000 barrels of crude oil bled from the noxious Exxon Valdez into Alaska's Prince William Sound in March, 1989.

The lobby began anew four years ago

**HOPING TO REVIVE ITS FLAGGING ECONOMY, SOME RESIDENTS OF PRINCE RUPERT WANT TO END THE MORATORIUM ON OFFSHORE DRILLING**



Life is good for fishers, but not everyone shares his contentment.

when a Prince Rupert-based group, the North Coast Oil and Gas Task Force, sought to revitalise the region's fishing economy. It gained momentum in May with the election of Campbell's Liberals, a business-friendly government on the hunt for new revenue. "What can be done in an environmentally sound and sensible way, certainly I would consider it," Campbell said, even before his swearing-in last month.

Norally, Bill Beloy, the vice-chairman of the oil and gas task force and a longtime environmentalist and diver on offshore rigs, is the newly minted Liberal M.L.A. for the region. He says he's pleased the Liberals have started on "this cautious path" to reviewing the issue. He wants to be delivered this week to the government by the provincial northern development commissioner, John Buchanan, a widely accepted to recommend a broad-based series of public hearings in dozens of communities where drilling may have an impact on the environment and the economy. The stakes are huge. "It's the potential for an awful lot of money," says Beloy. "There are governments all over the world that would like to grow the kinds of resources that are predicted."

In 1998, the Geological Survey of Canada estimated the potential resources

at 3.8 billion barrels of oil and 25 trillion cubic feet of gas—a basin about three times the size of Alberta. A report this spring by the Maritime Awards Society of Canada, an oceanographic think-tank, says the total direct and indirect wealth generated by exploring such a find could be about \$750 billion—though it doesn't underestimate the political or environmental risk. British Columbia's share of revenues, spread over 30 years, could be \$4.5 billion annually, the society estimates, with billions more in indirect benefits.

On a gutting wet afternoon, Don Knuel, president and CEO of the Prince Rupert Port Authority, stands on the empty asphalt expanse of Fairview Terminal. He was an early and outspoken advocate of lifting the moratorium, and he doesn't have to say much to make his case. In good times, heavy lift trucks roll down the long ramps between mountains of lumber awaiting shipment south or to Asian markets. Today, a lone hardware store would stock more lumber than the pile sitting on the terminal's sprawling 21.5-hectare dock.

The nearby dock facility has also seen a precarious plunger diagnosed after weak Asian demand closed the open-pier Queen

strait mine in the B.C. Interior. "It's been terribly discouraging," concedes Knuel, who is nevertheless pushing ahead with plans to capture a share of the lucrative Alaskan cruise industry. As for freight, the total tonnage handled by the port has fallen by about half since 1998. Offshore energy developers, Knuel says, would mean industrial profits far beyond servicing a few rigs. Steel mills, liquefied gas plants and petrochemical facilities could all be drawn to the region by a hydrocarbon strike. "I have a very strong belief we're sitting on a diamond in the rough," he says.

In the meantime, Prince Rupert's population has fallen to an estimated 14,500—a drop of 2,700 in three years. Resources are stretched thin to cope with the resulting abuse, poverty and dysfunction. In April alone, five people committed suicide, two of them under the age of 15. "The social fabric of our community is frayed fast," says Dave McGaughey, business consultant and founding chairman of the oil and gas task force. "This time of year, when the fishing season opens, you would see hundreds and hundreds of boats in the harbour. You don't see that anymore. You don't see the boats down town as you used to."

Like many here, McGaughey fears the debate may be hijacked by "Lower Mainland capped-no-drilling Hollywood envi-

ronmentalist" and southern B.C. sensibilities. "They're great coming up with objections to development in certain areas, but they never seem to come out with an alternative," he says. "You take resource extraction—they might fly up in a jet and burn 10,000 to 15 of fuel to get here, to tell you to use wind power. You've never seen them sailing up in a sailboat."

Not all directions are from the south. Among those mobilising to keep the moratorium is the Living Ocean Society, based in Sechart, a fishing village and former stevedore community off the north end of Vancouver Island. "Why do we have to look at this being a panacea?" asks executive director Jennifer Lash, who also speaks for an alliance of about 60 other conservation, labour and aboriginal groups opposed to offshore development. "If there is an oil spill, who's going to jeopardise fishing? We're going to jeopardise tourism. We can't put those other industries at risk."

In the soft evening light, John Helin of the Tsimshian community of Lax Kw'altams, about 35 km north of Prince Rupert, resides his glimmer. Freedom Rider Helin has fished in the region for most of his 46 years; this season began dismally in mid-June with the announcement of a 25-per-cent cut in the allowable catch for Skeena River sockeye. Unemployment in his village is as high as 50 per cent, he says, and the future of the fishery



Knuel says Prince Rupert is a 'diamond in the rough'.

an increasingly tenuous. Yet he is skeptical that offshore drilling is the answer.

He has many reservations—the unresolved state of aboriginal land and sea claims, and the risk of an earthquake or severe storm causing a rig disaster and spill in the Hecate Strait fishing grounds. "It goes and miserable," he says of the area's economic state. "It comes up fast. It's shallow water, so when it starts blowing it goes real bad." Even if watching the profits of fishing and timber flow south also make him skeptical that conservation lies his would benefit from the development.

His concerns are shared by Guajuan, president of the neighbouring Haida Nation of the Queen Charlotte Islands. Guajuan, whose single name means "dream," says much of the Charlottas are regarded by offshore exploration lacks that impinge on areas claimed by the Haida in their territories. As for Campbell's eagerness to review

alone budgeting multi-millions for a drilling program. "We need to see some movement from the governments," says Lorlei Pooto, a Calgary-based spokeswoman for Chevron Canada Resources, which holds rights to 4.8 million hectares of seabed in the Hecate Strait. "We expect that would be a lengthy process."

For the people on the coast such as Campbell as change in political attitudes. Campbell has started the debate privately. And Prime Minister Jean Chrétien has shown enthusiasm for sponsoring Canadian experts to meet the energy demands of George W. Bush's tiny U.S. administration. Should, one day, the glorious summer prove accurate, offshore drilling would become the province's second-largest industry after tourism. Whether the tone can consist in one of the calculated risks. It is a debate, then, about British Columbia's future. And it starts now. ■

## A TOWN'S CRUEL TRICKS OF FATE

For any city, Prince Rupert was once under a cloud but it usually and metaphorically cleared. The city about a dramatic annual average of 6,123 oceanic hours. "It is officially Canada's cloudiest place," says the Encyclopedia of British Columbia. Mark is overly blessed with luck.

Consider the fate of city founder Charles Melville Hays, a man with grand vision and a terrible level of angst. Hays, the bird-shedding president of the Grand Forks Pacific Railway, is both credited and blamed for putting through Canada's second

transcontinental railway. In 1904, he personally chose Tuck Inlet as the railway's Pacific terminus, on the strength of its magnificent all-season harbour, about a day closer by ship to Asia than other West Coast ports. He pictured a city of 50,000, named Prince Rupert, sitting the southern port of Vancouver.

Deer landscape architects designed a model community. Hays constructed a massive industrial Harbourside, master of Victoria's legislature building and the Empress Hotel, he built a grand hotel and passenger terminal. By 1910, a growing city of 5,000 prepared for the first transcontinental train and the province's "oldest of the East,

laden with risk and debt." Hays called to England in search of investor funds, a voyage that went awfully but for the choice of return vessel—a liner named Titanic. The local newspaper published a "Titanic Times" on April 15, 1912. "Twenty-three hundred and forty-eight lost. Hays' name is among missing." It is perhaps telling that the story was reported in *The Daily News*, a paper that had previously changed its name from *The Prince Rupert Spectator*.

The railway was completed in 1914, but celebrations were pre-empted by the First World War. By 1919, the Grand Forks bank had collapsed and merged into the Canadian National Railway Co.

Now, almost 90 years after Hays' death, Prince Rupert's population and economy are in decline. Not away of the estimated 14,500 who remain clinging to his vision that Prince Rupert is an Asian transportation hub and northern industrial giant waiting in the wings. "I think it's just been a lot of bad luck," explains Mayor Don Scott, whose relatives were among the city's founding merchants. Developing petrowarens, offshore oilfields and attracting the Alaskan oilfield trade are initiatives that have been "getting sidetracked" about the future. "There are so many things that have Prince Rupert is going to beat wide open at the seams." ■

# FREE AT LAST

By DEBORAH NUBES in Montreal

**T**he heat in the tiny upstairs room hits like something solid, seeping around limbs and soaking air from lungs. The room is crowded with furniture, an old refrigerator, stacks of boxes and a single bed neatly made with a ratty yellow spread. Despite the heat, Felix Michael spends hours here, sitting in a low chair next to the window with the shade down, smoking Export "W" cigarettes. In some ways, he feels as trapped as he did during the years he lived behind bars for a murder he always insisted he didn't commit. He was finally released from prison on May 29 when a Court of Queen's Bench justice threw out the Crown's main evidence against him. "I know they should investigate what happened," Michael says in a thick French accent that reveals his northern New Brunswick roots. "Why did they do this to me? Why? I have nothing. My room is no larger than the cell I was living in for the last nine years. It's hot as hell. I just sit in there and boil."

After having his face plastered on the front pages of local newspapers and on TV, Michael, who will soon turn 36, is a celebrity in his Montreal, N.B., rooming house. But he hates the place and his plans to move out. He has found work on a printing crew for the summer, but hopes to get a job driving long-haul trucks and move to the country where he can hunt and fish and begin his life again. "I want to settle down. Find a woman, have kids if she wants us," he says. "Normal



Now the New Brunswick man just wants to get on with his life.

stuff. I have a lot of love to give. That's all I want to do."

Things began to unravel for Michael in July, 1992. He had been living with his common-law wife, Suzanne Oakes, and their four-year-old daughter, Cindy, in the tiny village of Chatham, N.B. The young family lived in the edge of poverty, their welfare cheques supplemented by under-the-table work driving gravel trucks and payments for smuggling tobacco across the Saint John River from Maine. An elderly cousin of Oakes', Rose Gagné, helped when the world, buying clothes and gifts for Cindy. Until Gagné's death in a house fire on Dec. 4, 1991, Michael remained her favourite, picking up her prescriptions and doing yard work.

After a brief investigation, New Brunswick RCMP suspected Gagné's death was an accident. But then a local small-time criminal, Marco Albert, began telling friends the 73-year-old woman was raped and murdered and the fire deliberately set to hide the evidence. Police ignored their investigations—with disturbing conclusions. An arson investigator found the fire had indeed been intentionally set. And a psychologist who examined the exhausted body found Gagné had died before the house burned, but could not pinpoint her cause of death or determine whether she had, in fact, been raped.

Police arrested Albert, who gave three different statements before settling on a version that blamed an accomplice for the murder. In exchange for a promise to testify, Albert pleaded guilty to robbery and was sentenced to just two years in prison. He told police he and Michael robbed the house together, but Michael was responsible for the rest. Police turned up nothing else to connect Michael to the crime, but nearly seven months to the day after Gagné's death, he was charged with first-degree murder.

Soon then, Michael was a hard road through New Brunswick's judicial system. After Albert testified against him in a 1993 trial, Michael was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole. But upon appeal, the New Brunswick Court of Appeal condemned the trial as unfair, ruling that the Crown prosecutor, Jocelyne Morneau-Bonabe, made inflammatory and misleading remarks to the jury when she concluded Michael was capable of murder because he cheated welfare and smuggled tobacco. The Supreme Court of Canada upheld the lower court's decision to order a new trial. Weeks before it began in September, 1996, Albert shot and killed himself in the basement of his parents' home. Still, Court of Queen's Bench Justice Alexander Daoust allowed the trial to go ahead, and transcripts of Albert's testimony from the first trial were read to the jury. Michael was convicted yet again and sentenced to life in prison.

Because he denied any guilt, he wasn't eligible to take

part in any prison rehabilitation programs, including therapy. Instead, Michael worked as a prison mechanic, clearing snow from the yards in winter, planting flowers and mowing grass in the summer. He bounced from federal institutions in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia to provincial around corners, always trying to maintain hope he would be believed. But the warden took to tell, as he suffered bouts of anxiety and depression. "He lost all optimism to fight," says one of his lawyers, Gilles Lemieux. "But even then, he wouldn't admit. He's always been driven by the belief that something, somewhere would vindicate him."

Finally, in February, 2000, the New Brunswick Court of Appeal quashed the second conviction and ordered a new trial based on a motion in the lower court judge's charge to the jury. Before the third trial was to begin, Michael's defence team requested a new disclosure file from the Crown. Instead of the 250 pages of evidence that had been handed over in the two previous trials, the prosecution whiffled in a dilly bearing several boxes containing 2,500 pages of witness transcripts and police notes. They contained crucial evidence that had been given to his first lawyer, might have resulted in Michael being acquitted. This included transcripts of two separate conversations in which Albert said Michael was not a person "who would think of doing something like that."

**But why, asks Felix Michael, did he spend nine years in jail for a crime he didn't commit?**

The stacks also included a curious note written by the chief investigating officer, Richard

RCMP Corp. Richard Sauvageau, documenting a conversation between himself and Morneau-Bonabe. The note, from November, 1992, and the witness transcripts should not be used as trial. "She is of the opinion that it would be useless to utilize any of it, being merely beneficial to the accused," Sauvageau wrote.

The convicted justice Roger McIvor says the prosecution was "grossly negligent" when it failed to disclose the transcripts to the defence in the first two trials, and he ordered the exclusion of all of Albert's testimony as the pending trial. The Crown admitted it had no case and stayed the murder charge against Michael (the Crown has a year to restate the charge). He walked out of jail the same day with a cheque for \$47,000 from his inmate account.

Michael is now coping with life on the outside. His lawyers are pushing for compensation to atone for his years behind bars. But Michael isn't sure any amount of money would make up for his loss. His wife has moved on. She has full custody of his daughter, who is now a teenager. Michael himself is more fearful. "You know how when you go to the restaurant in the supermarket and you make your own in to see if you can taste?" says Lemieux. "Felix is seeking his way into society, because he's lost his sense about what he's doing." □



# A Premier Performance



## HARRIS STUCK TO THE PARTY LINE— BUDGET CUTS POSED NO HAZARD

**A**fter eight months and 107 witnesses, the inquiry into last year's tainted-water scandal in Walkerton, Ont., finally reached its anticipated climax—or more like its anti-climax. In his summation last week, Premier Mike Harris simply reiterated what he's said before: that neither he nor his cabinet were ever warned that budget cuts to the environment ministry posed any risk to public health. Still, instead of just jiving with reporters or making speeches in the Ontario legislature, Harris had to sit the rural Ontario constituency where seven people died and more than 2,000 fell ill after drinking water tainted with *E. coli* O157:H7 in May, 2000. Then, after running a gauntlet of prosecu-

ors—at least 50 police officers were on hand to help him do so—he swore on a Bible to tell the truth. And with that, Harris stepped into the history books as the first Ontario premier in over 55 years to testify before a public inquiry (The last to face one was George Drew in 1945, testifying about the OPP's pursuit of suspected Communists.)

The often combative Harris was subdued during his six hours on the stand, but his words still carried a punch. He said that when the Conservatives came to power in 1995, they felt their most immediate concern was reducing the province's \$10.6-billion deficit. As part of its downsizing program, the government cut more than \$200 million from the

*Placing a strong of protection on the way into the Walkerton inquiry*

environment ministry's budget and slashed 750 jobs, including many frontline inspectors. But, Harris testified, senior ministry officials and the minister in charge were convinced the cuts were safe. "If we felt there was any risk and it had been brought to my attention," he added, "we would not have proceeded."

Inquiry lawyer Paul Cranston was Apocalyptic, reminding Harris of the mounts of evidence to the contrary. "We've got document upon document of increased risk to health and safety," he declared.

It was a rough week for Harris all around. Despite his four appearances to support the by-election campaign of floundering Tory candidate Joyce Franks, he lost badly to Liberal Greg Sorbara, receiving just 12,183 votes to his 21,954. While governments are traditionally not unduly concerned by such modern defeats, political analysts said this loss was significant. The Vaughan/King/Aurora riding, held by popular cabinet minister Al Palladini until his death in March, is part of the so-called 905 belt that voted solidly Tory in the past two provincial elections. There was another omen last week that the Conservatives may be losing their stranglehold on Ontario. An Ipsos-Reid poll put their support at just 35 per cent, compared with 53 per cent for Dalton McGuinty's Liberals.

Barbara Wickham

Did the Ontario Tories turn their backs on public safety?  
by Barbara Wickham

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# WHEN GIRLS RULED

By BRIAN BECKMAN in Edmonton

Seventy-one years after the team affably disbanded, the ranks of the Edmonton Grads—perhaps the most successful squad in the history of Canadian sport—are growing precariously thin. But “the girls,” as the 11 surviving basketball players will refer to themselves, even though they are all more than 80 years old, remain the best of friends. “When we get together, you can’t get a word in edgewise,” Margaret Vaheruu, 92, told *Adweek* during a recent interview in the sitting lounge of her school’s residence in Edmonton. As if to prove the point, Vaheruu and her former teammate Edith Sutton (who declines to give her age, saying “It is simply not spoken about”) spent the next three hours interjecting, finishing each others’ sentences and gleefully chatting off on theoretical tangents, leaving their interviewers puzzling to keep up.

Far enough these “girls” have earned the right to talk—and to be heard. Together, the pair spent 14 years as members of the fabled Grads. From 1915 to 1940, the Grads dominated women’s basketball, capturing the imagination of a continent by winning all but *three* of their 522 games. And from 1933 through 1940, they reigned in Canada, North America and world championships. The team also traveled to the Olympic four times, winning all 27 demonstration games it played against international foes. Among the Grads’ many admirers was James Na-

Edith Sutton and Margaret Vaheruu, the last remaining members of the Edmonton Grads.

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smith, the Canadian who invented basketball in 1891. After watching the Edmonton squad handily defeat the Oldham Red Bulls in a 1925 matchup, Nasenth declared the Grads "the greatest team that ever stepped on a basketball floor."

The Edmonton Grads were the brainchild of Percy Page, a mild-mannered educator who coached the team through out its 25-year existence. The amateur team was made up of graduates and students of Edmonton's McDougall Commercial High School (now John A. McDougall Public School) where Page served as principal. They were unpaid and unmarried, and most worked full time as clerical or teaching jobs. "Mr. Page"—as the surviving Grads, to this day, refer to him—was a strict, if low-key, disciplinarian who stressed the basics: shooting, passing, top physical condition and an ascetic lifestyle that mirrored his own. "We had to be clean and neat," recalls Sutton, who also lives in Edmonton. "Our shoes had to be white and even off the court we had to be well-dressed." Adèle Vaherese, "Ms. Page's woman" as it is ladies first and basketball players after that.

Nevertheless, the Grads were, in their own way, trail-blazers for women's equality. The team helped legitimize a shift in women's basketball from "girls' rules"—designed to avoid out-convincing the players' "defiant" natures—to those played by men. The latter allowed for a wide-open game, with loose running and checking and five players to a side rather than six. Perhaps as a result, ugly rumors surfaced in some quarters. "It was said that playing would make us sterile," says Sutton. "If we were lucky enough to have a baby, it would only be a girl. We'd have cancer and all be dead before we were 40." Sutton smiles dully as she ponders that but notes, "You can see," she says, "that's hardly the case."

Whisper campaigns notwithstanding, the Grads more commonly enjoyed unadorned adulation. At their peak, hometown game crowds numbered more than 6,000—this at a time when Edmonton's population hovered around 50,000—and

team members could not go anywhere in the city without being recognized. Typically, thousands of fans crowded the local railway station whenever the team left on one of its world tours, where it returned, always in triumph, similar throngs named out.

Life on the road, as on the court, was dictated by Page. The players traveled as a group, had no discretionary income with which to socialize and were discouraged from dating. Page, who served as Alberta's lieutenant-governor from 1959 to 1966, passed away in 1973, but still exerts influence on his former charges from be-

hind. And about that roadside? "Nothing," replies Sutton. "Never mind."

Their social life may remain forever a mystery, but the Grads' exploits on the court are well-documented. They traveled 200,000 km in search of the world's best teams, and beat them all—even winning seven of nine games against men's teams. Their secret was stamina and fast pass-and-shoot play, many of the Grads' legendary late-game sprints came when their opponents were exhausted by the pace the Edmonton players set. "We never practiced dribbling," says Sutton. "Dribbling stole the game. It's an individual, look-at-me kind of playing—hogging the ball while there is someone over there screaming for a pass. Team play means passing."

Not surprisingly, the Grads veterans have little good to say about the current state of professional basketball. "Today, basketball is just girls," says Vaherese. "You go to these games and they have these dancing girls and musicians. I can't imagine Mr. Page ever hiring a dancing girl." Sutton is even more blunt. "In our day, there weren't these netting, netting, constantly flipping coaches running up and down the sidelines telling players what to do," she says. "They should make those guys sit down on the bench and be quiet."



The Grads in 1921, when they dominated women's basketball.

pond the grave. Sutton confides that she met her late husband, then secretary of the Manitoba basketball association, while on a road trip with the Grads. "You weren't supposed to do that—go out with boys," she says. "I did something I wasn't supposed to." Sutton's voice is suffused with a mixture of mischief and pride. She then tries to talk about "the girls" going to a machine that the ups was sometimes studied by the authorities when Vaherese sharply interrupts.

"You're putting it in the hands now," warns Vaherese. "He'll be waiting it down. Mr. Page from up high will be looking down on you."

"I wasn't the only one," protests Sutton. "Others were there, too."

"I could tell you something, too," says Vaherese, "but I'm sharing my mouth. I'm not saying a word. Think of Ms. Page!"

The Edmonton Grads disbanded in 1940. The outbreak of the Second World War placed severe restrictions on foreign travel and the Royal Canadian Air Force took over the Edmonton Arena, where the team had recently doubled its fans. Most of the 38 women who played for the Grads between 1915 and 1940 subsequently married, found children, pursued careers and settled into communities across Canada. But they always stayed in touch—through letters, phone calls, reunions and, more recently, fanzines for team members. Though their numbers are dwindling, the legacy of the Grads endures. "How many people enjoy recognition after so many years?" asks Sutton rhetorically. "How many have friends that they've kept for so long?"

Team work. With the Edmonton Grads, that's what it was always about. ■



Mary Janigan

## Penalizing success

For decades, Ottawa's Douglas Clark was probably the fiercest genius in the nation who grasped the nuances of equalization. In the early 1970s, desperate to minister the formula, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau asked the finance department for a cabinet briefing on how Ottawa calculated its transfer to the three non-provinces. With now-forgotten aplomb, the indefensible Clark proudly allowed that he had a genius ploy—but could probably cancel it. His sacrifice was largely wasted. "The prime minister understood things," Clark, now retired, recalls. "It's hard to say about the cabinet."

Today, although there are small pools of speculation in Ottawa and provincial capitals, equalization remains an arcane art. But the formula's complexity is working against the very provinces it was designed to help. For instance, Nova Scotia Premier John Horgan has argued that the program does not provide sufficient incentive for disadvantaged provinces to develop their non-renewable resources. Instead, transfers to Newfoundland and Nova Scotia are reduced by 70 to 90 cents for every dollar of provincial resource revenue. In desperation, Horgan has reached out to other energy-producing provinces such as Alberta, fusing a common front to advocate change. It's hard to rally support in such a Byzantine tangle. And that's a pity—because changes may be the only way to help Atlantic Canada help itself. "Equalization was designed for economies in decline," says Brian Lee Crowley, president of the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies. "It can't accommodate a continent that is experiencing growth. That is the dark side of equalization."

The program, which will cost an estimated \$10.6 billion in 2006-2007, allows the seven poorer provincial governments to provide similar levels of services while keeping roughly similar levels of taxation. To calculate the payments, officials work out the average national rate for 33 taxes, such as personal income taxes. Then they figure out the average amount that each of those taxes would raise, and Ottawa covers any overall deficiency in a given province. (Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia do not receive it.) It's an accusatory lawsuit: experts must twice a year re-debate 60-page papers on tiny changes. Ottawa has transferred \$180 billion since 1957—but the dependency rate has actually halved. Newfoundland raised only 64.5 per cent of its own revenue

in 2000-2001, barely up from 62 per cent in 1972-1973.

Now, at least two of the provinces have a chance to escape the cycle. Both Newfoundland and Nova Scotia have huge offshore oil and gas reserves. But Ottawa includes 70 per cent of their oil and gas royalties when it does its equalization arithmetic. That means that 70 per cent of those royalties are deducted from the transfer. The formula's deductions are even higher for royalties from non-renewable mineral resources: about 90 per cent of those revenues are deducted from transfers. Provincial governments respond to such perverse signals, concentrating on short-term job-creation schemes instead of maintaining the asset that corporations pay for non-renewable resources. After all, when royalties reduce transfers, there's a non-political and perhaps more economic advantage in job schemes. Newfoundland's negotiations with Inco Ltd. over the building of a multimillion-dollar nickel mine in Voisey's Bay foundered mostly because the firm would not build a sufficiently large job-creating smelter near the site.

There are solutions. Alberta public policy economist Ken Rosenbloom has suggested that Ottawa remove the 11 taxes on oil and gas and mineral resources from the 33-tax base. That way, tax revenues from those resources would not be deducted from the transfer. Yet the transfers would gradually decrease as revenues from other sources, like personal income taxes, rose in the province because either it would not raise Ottawa's coffers—payments to Atlantic Canada would drop slightly.

Ottawa's response is costly. Finance Minister Paul Martin says other provinces would never agree. New Brunswick, for one, would want to escape revenue from its renewable pulp and paper industry. He prefers to target grants to specific problems. That may be political realism—the formula is not up for renewal until 2004—but it keeps entrenching dysfunctional behavior such as Voisey's Bay. Meanwhile, as Nova Scotia's energy adviser Roland Martin notes, Atlantic Canada's growth rates are high—but tax rates are also high. As provinces such as Alberta or Texas, the allure of moving may become irresistible—unless there's a homegrown resource boom. "The formula should be changed to provinces keep more revenue which they could spend on sustainable growth," he says. It's time to stop penalizing success.

With resource wealth,  
Ottawa's equalization  
program needs a rethink



Offshore oil rig in Newfoundland



## Edmonton 2001 8th IAAF World Championships in Athletics

Edmonton Welcomes the World.



The people of Edmonton know all about big-time sporting events. After all, their city has hosted the Commonwealth Games, The World University Games, The World Figure Skating Championships and a handful of Grey Cups. And thanks to a guy named Wayne Gretzky, they have had their fair share of Stanley Cup celebrations. Nevertheless, even with this impressive resume, they are about to hop, skip and jump into uncharted territory.

From August 30 through to August 31st, Edmonton will host the 8th International Amateur Athletic Federation World Championships in Athletics. It is the first time the prestigious track and field event has been held in North America and altogether more than 3,000

athletes, coaches and officials from more than 200 countries will be converging in the Alberta capital to compete in 24 men's and 22 women's athletic events. Recording the joy and drama will be an additional 2,500 members of the media. After the Summer Olympics and the World Cup of Soccer, the IAAF World Championships in Athletics is the largest sporting event in the world with four billion viewers expected to tune into the action over the 10-day event.

"It is an enormous undertaking," admits Rick LeLachue, President and CEO of the Edmonton 2001 Championships. "But I think we are up to the challenge." The total budget for the event is \$25 million, which will be underwritten by three levels of government, the event's sponsors and suppliers and through ticket sales. The events will be held at Commonwealth Stadium, which has undergone a \$22 million renovation.

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An event of this magnitude would not be possible without an army of volunteers. Fortunately, one of Edmonton's nicknames is "Volunteer City". In the very first week when the call went out for help, 7,000 forms were completed and returned. Altogether, 5,800 Edmontonians have volunteered to fill up different job descriptions, everything from staffing envelopes and preparing food, to acting as interpreters and driving athletes and officials to and from events.



An aerial view of Commonwealth Stadium in Edmonton.

Another 4,500 volunteers, including a mass choir of 5,000 voices, have come forward to participate in what promises to be the most spectacular Opening and Closing Ceremonies ever held in Canada. Although the final plans for both ceremonies are going to be kept as a surprise, they will include dynamic dance and high profile production numbers. The fun will continue at The World's™ Plaza, which will be located in the heart of downtown Edmonton at Churchill Square. The World's™ will be a family oriented venue, a mix of five interactive exhibits, live entertainment and pin trading. Daily, on the 360° TELUS Stage, local and international entertainers will be performing throughout the day and evening. In addition, at the sprint cage, aspiring track stars will be able to lace up a new pair of Adidas racing shoes and blast out of the blocks and down the 50-metre track. The Soko Tank, the same kind used at Commonwealth Stadium, will flash out the times.

Although the last-minute details of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies are still under wraps, the news that the men's marathon is being run in conjunction with the Opening Ceremony is already making headlines. Usually, this marathon event is held at the end of competition so the stands are only half filled when the runners enter the stadium and break into the finish line. This time though, just as the



Official mascots, Tracker and Rebel, promoting the World Championships in Athletics.

Opening Ceremonies are winding down, the marathon foot-runners are scheduled to enter the stadium, with 42,000 fans leaping to their feet, cheering on the dash for gold.

The 42-km marathon route features 14 curves, smooth topography and stunning cityscapes. It kicks off at Commonwealth Stadium in the east end of Edmonton and then loops to the west side of the city before returning to the stadium. Along the way, it will run through suburban streets and urban parkland, a luscious stretch of river valley and past the continent's largest shopping mall. It will even roll past the spectacular waterfall that flows off the high level bridge and into the North Saskatchewan River.

Marcus Bravo, a Technical Delegate for the IAAF, has inspected the course and is full of praise for the route. Bravo feels that the beautiful background may give the runners a psychological lift. "The marathon runners need their minds very, very clear on what they're doing," said Bravo. "Good scenery helps very much. It's fresh for the mind and body."

## Star Turns

When Marcus Jones announced that her goal was to become the first female track athlete to win five gold medals at the Summer Olympics, nobody doubted that Jones would at least come close. After all, going to the Sydney Games, she

Marcus Jones's soon-to-be golden moment at the Sydney Olympics



Photo: J. J. Jones

# Edmonton 2001

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ATHLETICS

won every event she entered at the U.S. Olympic Trials and earlier in her career had shown her prowess as an all-around athlete.

As a high school senior, she was named California Division I basketball player of the year and in her first year at college, she helped North Carolina State to an NCAA Basketball Championship. In the end, Jones still won three Olympic golds in the 100m, 200m and 400m events and two bronzes in the long jump and 4x100m. Through out the Games, she also captured hearts and headlines with her ready smile and graciousness. The 25 year old, who now lives in Ogden, N.C., made the trip to Edmonton at the end of May to check out the city and the facilities. She gave both places a big thumbs up and is looking forward to going for gold in Canada.

The tag of "world's fastest man" traditionally goes to the runner who is the current world record holder in the 100-metre dash. It is one of the most sought after titles in all of sports and past holders include Canadians Percy Williams, Henry Jerome and Donovan Bailey. The current king is American Maurice Greene who has slashed the dash to an amazing 9.79 seconds. Greene is also the proud owner of two gold medals from the Sydney Olympics and is a two time

Over the last quarter century, on the men's side, the Kenyans have dominated almost every distance from the 1,500 metres to the marathon. However, in Edmonton, one of their main challenges will come from

Yohan El Guernouf of Morocco. The charismatic El Guernouf holds the world records in both the mile and the 1,500 metres, and earlier this year, won a spectacular 3:08.82 in Oregon, the fastest outdoor mile ever recorded in the United States. Despite the records, the Moroccan, who is a national hero at home — the equivalent of Wayne Gretzky in Canada — feels like he has a long way to make to his countrymen.

In 1996, at the Atlanta Olympics, El Guernouf led in the 800m of the 1,500 and missed the medals. At the 2000 Games in Sydney, the Moroccan star finished second to Kenya's Noah Ngeny but the pressure to win gold was so strong that a distraught El Guernouf went on television and apologized to all of Morocco for his silver medal performance.

The wild kid to watch for at these Championships is Alan Webb, an 18 year old high school senior from Boston, Va., who, over the last six months, has smashed some of the old records in American track. In January, at the New Balance Games, Webb reeled off a 3:09.86, becoming the first high school miler ever to go sub four indoors. Three months later, he lined up with an international field of world-class runners at the Prefontaine Classic in Eugene, Ore., and smothered the crowd with a final lap kick of 55.3 seconds and a final time of 3:03.43. His time eclipsed Jim Ryan's 36-year-old high school record by almost two seconds and it was the fastest mile by any American since 1996. After his run in Oregon, Webb stayed behind and signed autographs for two hours. Look for him to engender the same kind of enthusiasm in Edmonton.

Canada too has a number of stars that are set to shine in Edmonton. High jumper Mark Boswell is one of the country's most accomplished athletes in any sport. In 1996, he became the only Canadian to ever win a gold medal at the World Junior Championships and in 1999, he took gold again at the Pan American Games. In that same year at the World Championships in Seville, Spain, Boswell established a new Canadian record of 2.25 metres and won the silver medal. He was just as impressive

# The Heart of Canada



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World 100 metre champion. To prove that he's not all about brown, Greene recently appeared on the hit game show *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* where he won \$125,000, half of which he donated to the United Negro College Fund. Greene joined Marion Jones on her recent scouting trip to Edmonton and he too was very pleased with what he saw.



during his college days in the United States where he captured six consecutive high jump titles and four consecutive NCAA championships. Ironically, when Boswell was growing up in Jamaica, high jump was the one event he was reluctant to attempt because his school had no landing mats.



Another Canadian who showed tremendous potential as a junior athlete is 1,500-metre runner Kevin Sullivan. In 1999, the Brantford, Ont., native earned a bronze medal at the World Junior Championships in Seoul, South Korea. Two years later, he was the No. 1 ranked junior mile in the world and was a silver medalist at the Commonwealth Games. Sullivan, who has recently graduated with an engineering degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, proved that he belonged with the big boys by finishing fifth in the 1,500 metres at the Sydney Olympics. Earlier this year, he reinforced his reputation as one of the world's top milers by clocking a sensational 3:51 for and finishing second in a race to Richard El Guerrouj. In the fall, Sullivan will help coach a University of Michigan track team that will include teen sensation Alan Webb.



#### TICKET SALES FOR THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

##### Pick a Package

**T**icket sales for the World Championships have been brisk, however, there are still some single seats and packages available. According to Rick LeLachue, the Edmonton organizers had two major aims when scheduling the events and planning the ticket packages. "We had a goal of making this affordable for anyone who wants to see it. We think we've done that," he says. They have also balanced the events so that the world's best athletes will be competing in finals for gold medals on every single day of the competition. The team from Edmonton was also able to get the IAAF to make the 4x100m relay the last race run at the Championships. "Dwaine Bailey has announced his retirement for later this year and we wanted to give him and the rest of the relay team a chance to finish off the Championships on a high note," says LeLachue.

The ticket packages include: The 10-day SUPER Pack, which features guaranteed seating, spans the grandeur of the Opening Ceremony and every moment in between. (\$450 to \$680)

The 6-Day LAUNCH Pack encompasses the Opening Ceremony and afternoon and evening sessions on days 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 7, plus the morning sessions on days 2, 4 and 5. This package also allows you to purchase a ticket for the men's 200-metre final in the afternoon of day 1. (\$150 to \$435)

The 3-Day FINALE Pack includes the Closing Ceremony celebration and spans days 8, 9 and 10 of the competition. This package also allows you the opportunity to buy a ticket for the men's 200-metre final. (\$90 to \$245)

It is important to note that all of the prices include all fees and taxes and complimentary use of the Edmonton Transit System to and from Commonwealth Stadium. The range of prices in the packages are based on location of seating within Commonwealth Stadium. For more information about the World's, including how to purchase tickets, log on to [www.2001.edmonton.ca](http://www.2001.edmonton.ca) and click on Ticket packages, pricing & seating map. Click through to competition timetable for a detailed schedule of events. To purchase tickets over the phone, contact Ticketmaster at 1-877-242-2001.

Fans planning to visit Edmonton for the World Championships in Athletics will have no difficulty in finding accommodations during the 10-day event. The local organizing committee has contracted Advance Group in Vancouver to handle all hotel bookings. They can be reached by e-mail at [housing@advance-group.com](mailto:housing@advance-group.com)



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Canada and the World

# CANADA'S TEAM

A soccer squad honours a mysterious Canadian  
who aided an African town



BY LINDA POLMAN in Kinross

The hot West African man is taking the Sierra Leone village of Kinross. A man bathed in sweat and carrying a football, pedalling around on his bicycle, urging villagers to attend a midday soccer match between the home-town Black Stars and the visiting Nepean Stars from Bo, about 85 km away. In a dusty courtyard, while they wait for the game to begin, Nepean coach Remy Coombes, 35, is trying to explain why his team came to be

named after the former Ottawa suburb.

It was 1994, Coombes recalls, when "a white man came to Bo with funds to help develop the town. He built us a market, for one thing. I can still see his face and his posture: tall and lanky. He was from Canada and his name was Mr. Nepean. Or his village was called Nepean, I am not sure. However, in those days, we changed the club's name from the Bo All Stars to Nepean Stars. We hoped Mr. Nepean would appreciate this and help our club develop a little."

That hope evaporated a few months later when war broke out and the Canadian left the country. In their fight against the government, rebels of the Revolutionary United Front looted and burned villages, raped women and randomly cut off the arms and legs of children to further terrorize the population. In 1997, the rebels captured Bo. Coombes says all the inhabitants, including the Nepean Stars, ran into the bush to seek the protection of the Kamajors, a warrior tribe believed to possess magical powers that make them

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available, and thus feared by the rebels.

Eventually, the Kamajoi peace forces with Nigerian UN peacekeepers and chased the rebels out of Bo. After a week, the people returned to their homes, grateful for the presence of the Kamajois who remain in charge of Bo's security. UN troops have since driven the rebels north and suspended Sierra Leone's only highway, making Bo's virtual isolation from much of the country. And although the rebels still control three-quarters of the country, soccer supporters are organizing so-called national competitions.

Many clubs did not survive the war. Some gave up when their players were either killed or scattered through refugee camps all over West Africa. But even during the darkest days, Coombes says, the Nigerian Stars kept playing, under a banner bearing a hand-painted Canadian flag. "Even if Mr. Nigeria never came back, we hold on to his name," the coach says. "We like it, even if we know how to split it correctly." The team has kept its place strong: the First Division manager, playing down to advancing to the Premier League or perhaps being discovered by a scout for a European team. "It is very important that they have this dream," says Coombes. "In a country like Sierra Leone, it is even dangerous not to dream because it is making that dream boys into the class of the rebels."

To keep the dream alive, the Stars usually train for four hours a day on a barren playing field on the outskirts of Bo. In rain-blashed, well-worn arenas, they run for eight kilometers around the field, stirring up dust clouds as admiring children watch. The team has no goalposts or nets, just bamboo poles, and only two practice balls that have been lost or broken each time they're kicked. A few of the players own cheap sandals or thong-strapped slippers, but most practice in bare feet. "We have to use our boots for matches," Coombes says. "We have 11 pairs and no spares."

On the day of the draw in Keneba,

Coombes discovered one of the pairs of boots too lost to find. He reminds Bo for a secondhand pair, but no one can help. Coombes has used a money to find the team before the game, but he is to spend it on gas for the Land Rover he's borrowed for the journey. "We often go without food," says a midfielder whose name is Confidence. "We then use energy by sleeping a lot."

All 18 players chosen for the Keneba match try to pile into the Land Rover, but

some often find them a job, to be a fighting force. They worry, because they've nothing decent to do. "His job, Coombes says, is to help the boys realize their hopes. "They are rebel fighters," he says. "I must make them proud of themselves, so they don't feel the need to hurt others." When the money runs out to time, Coombes, a former First Division player himself, gives the players allowances to help pay school fees. "But mind you, the Nigerian Stars is not an organization," he insists. "It's a professional soccer team fighting for a place in the Premier League, and we have no place for losers. Only the very talented make it through the selection."

Before the game, the Nigerian Stars gather in the heart of the Keneba courtyard. Children and fishermen sweep aside to make room for the team equipment, which is shaken from an old bag onto the ground. There are no personal effects—players pick through the pile for their shoes and boots. Piles of cardboard are stuck into sacks. "We're sorry up for this game," explains the goalkeeper.

The teams march onto the field two hours before sunset. By now, it's cool enough for players and spectators (admission fee: 40 cents) to avoid being roasted by the sun, but still early enough for the game to finish before dark—which is most because the lights don't work. The Nigerian Stars win 1-0. After paying the referees, the gatekeepers and security personnel, the players pocket a small profit. The Stars arrive back in Bo minutes before the midnight curfew. Seven o'clock sawtooth morning, gentlemen," Coombes says before he goes home to his wife and three children.

And so they continue to practice, four hours a day, under the West African sun. But a week later, there is bad news: The Nigerian Stars failed to raise enough money to cover their travel expenses, and so could not qualify for the Premier League. "Some of the boys are so disappointed, they are considering giving up," Coombes says.

"With the grace of God, it would be very likely if I could convince them to keep it in them. We will make it, you know. Next year, we will make the Canadian flag fly over the national stadium." In honour of the legacy name named Nigerian—or from the town named Nigerian. ■



Coombes (left) and the Nigerian Stars dream of winning soccer titles or perhaps being discovered by a European scout.

them with enough room and more are dispatched to the roof. (Of the team's 30 registered members, eight are off in school, a few have jobs, selling biscuits or underwear in Bo's market, and the rest are unemployed.) Finally, their Canadian flag banner draped across the front of the vehicle, they are off. The journey takes them through Sierra Leone's richest diamond fields, which the rebels have plundered to buy weapons. The area is heavily controlled. Every few miles, the team passes through a roadblock, manned by soldiers, police, UN troops or the Kamajois. At each one, the travelers are stopped and questioned; the Nigerian Stars are the same age—16 to 23—as most of the rebels.

Coombes says it's not difficult to understand the RUF's success in mounting war. "Those rebel boys are like my boys, but without education," he says. "They are not dumb, but young and strong and frustrated in every single thing they have tried to achieve in their lives. Then one day,



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# BACK IN THE FAST LANE

By **CRIS WOOD**

Lots of companies have their own cultures. Microsoft has something very like its own language—part pop-culture, part geek-speak, part relentless postmodern thinking. At executive briefings for journalists and corporate customers, phrases like “rich experience,” “on-the-fly,” “extending the desktop,” and “going forward” pop up as often as that famously verbose animated paper clip embedded in Microsoft’s most popular software. In an interview, the Canadian product manager for Windows, Erik Moll, asked whether Microsoft had spoken to a certain person. Or, as Moll put it, “Is that who you were interfacing with?”

“We may as well get used to the lingo. Just over a year after a U.S. judge found Microsoft to be a predatory monopoly, an appeals court last week overruled his order that the company be broken apart. The decision leaves the Redmond, Wash.-based software giant not only intact but unveiling new products that heavily replicate many of the same tactics the original court took to curb. In their unanimous decision, a panel of U.S. Court of Appeals judges did not dispute mid judge Thomas Penfield Jackson’s findings that Microsoft used illegal means to extend its effective monopoly of the personal computer’s operating system onto other areas. But the appeal judges shunted Jackson for clinging to the media and displaying “the appearance of partiality,” and sent his break-up order back to the lower court for reconsideration—by another judge.

The ruling surprised hardly anyone, certainly not Microsoft. Founder Bill Gates and CEO



FLUSH WITH  
A BIG COURT  
VICTORY,  
MICROSOFT  
IS OUT TO  
EXTEND ITS  
DOMINANCE

Steve Ballmer have insisted often and loudly in the last year that the company would never be split up. Asked recently whether anything—anything at all—might derail the Microsoft empire, the ebullient Ballmer boomed out an immediate “No!”

Well, maybe something. In the next hour Ballmer added: “We could screw up.”

Despite its legal victory, Microsoft has seen its world change in the past year. Personal computer sales have fallen for the first time in history. Many businesses, hit by the market collapse in technology stocks, are going down on new software investment. Consumers and corporations alike may be spending more time on the Internet, but they are more often using devices (like hand-held units) that don’t operate on Microsoft programs. Meanwhile, software piracy—long a thorn in Microsoft’s side—continues to drain off revenue.

But Microsoft is making back, big time. The May 31 launch of a new version of Office—Microsoft’s suite of word-processing, e-mail, calendar and spreadsheet applications—will be followed in October with a new edition of Windows—the flagship PC operating system. Both new products are dubbed “XP” for the sake of this enhanced “experience.” Or it could be for the very best once again: XP (Microsoft’s overblowning market dominance, to extend the company’s reach into potentially lucrative new realms).

According to Gates, new beliefs underlie company strategy. The firm is that people will increasingly forgo desktop hard drives in favor of using programs and keeping files on the Internet (what Gates calls “in the cloud”). The second is that as users migrate to the Net, providers like Microsoft will be able to switch from selling software to servicing it. “That,” Gates says, “is what we’re betting the company on.”

With its new Office-XP suite and the coming “XP” version of Windows, Microsoft is trying to hedge the bet. Both contain new features designed to link (or “extend”) desktops to the Web—and bind users ever more tightly to Microsoft.

One of the oddest is something called a “Smart Tag.” These little onscreen menus pop up when someone types a phrase that the software can relate to information held in another application, which may be located in some far corner of a corporate network or on the Web. Type “Jane Smith,” for in-

stance, and a Smart Tag might open with a link to Jane’s phone number, e-mail address and buying history, all recorded in your company database.

Plans to embed the same feature in the newest Windows attracted controversy months before its official release. In early versions of the software, someone who used Windows XP to surf the Web found certain words on pages they viewed triggered Smart Tags with a hidden corporate agenda. “I could be at Quicken.com,” says Michael Silver, an analyst with Gartner Research of Stamford, Conn., “and get a Smart Tag that brings me to MSN Investor. This is an example of Microsoft using dominance in their desktop operating system to improve business on their Internet properties.” Last week, Microsoft moved to defuse the furore, saying Smart Tags wouldn’t be ready for inclusion with Windows XP SP1. Smart

Tags remain part of Office XP and, the company made clear, might be added to Windows in the future.

Other elements of the new Office suite are meant to make it easier for people to work together over the Web. The latest Windows, too, will house new Web-based features when it debuts on Oct. 25. The system will come with so-called-up instant messaging—allowing file-sharing and video and audio conferencing be-

tween PCs—and Microsoft’s latest digital media player built in. Also included is an Internet firewall and Passport, which lets users create a secure digital “identity” for online transactions. Such add-ons may please consumers, but could be market-killers for independent software firms whose products do much the same thing. “The third-party developer in Kelowna,” suggests Greg Michon, an Edmonton-based software consultant and columnist, “will be like the guy who makes brake pads and supplies just for Toyota.”

Both new XP releases also beef up Microsoft’s defense against software piracy. Purchasers who install either software on their computers must negotiate something called “product activation,” which will match a code they type in against a dozen pieces of hardware in the user’s computer (including its central processor and hard drive) to create a digital ID which it sends to Microsoft via the Net. The company replaces with an “activation key” that, in effect, sways on the user’s software. Microsoft says it will let each Office purchaser install the same copy on up to two computers. Windows XP buyers will only be



Gates (left) is betting big on Web-friendly Windows XP due in October

able to use the product on one machine.

Microsoft badly wants home runs from both new XP offerings. Sales of Office accounts for 37 per cent of its revenues, while Windows gives it a presence on 92 per cent of the world's PCs. By contrast, Microsoft's forays into hand-held computing, Internet services and video games have largely failed to meet expectations (its old delayed X-box game console has cost \$1.5 billion to bring to market, and will only hit store shelves this fall). With so much at stake, Microsoft has turned once again to its dominant market share to help drive up profits from Office in particular. In a recent rejig of its licensing agreements, Microsoft obliged most existing business users of older versions of Office to buy the new XP edition by October—or face sharply higher upgrade costs. "If you're a small business that was upgrading Office every four years," says Chris Le Toux, a Los Altos, Calif.-based industry analyst, "you're going to be paying 70 per cent more than you were before."

Bundled software and ratcheted leveraged market share were what set off the antitrust case against Microsoft in the first place. But if Microsoft's tactics haven't changed, the playing field has. In just AOL Time Warner Inc., a revived IBM Corp., and Neo-bundled heavyweight Compaq and Sun Microsystems Inc., Microsoft confronts rivals much closer to its own size. Technology companies in general have lost the aura of invincibility they boasted in the mid-1990s. And while law would likely limit the fading of Microsoft's wrongdoing, federal and state prosecution must now decide whether to go back to the lower courts to fight for a less severe penalty. Few expect the Republicans in charge in Washington to fight very hard, and Gates suggests a settlement might now be possible.

For Redmond's ever-optimistic techno-leads, the way is clear. "We will prevail," Ballmer says. "We will stay one company and continue to deliver tools of empowerment for people and companies." Microsoft, you might say, is going forward, with every intention of escaping a rich experience for itself by extending its desktop into every aspect of online life. The rest of us will simply have to learn to interfere.

## Golfing via satellite

Those hand-held games that tell you where you are in the world—Global Positioning System units—don't see for Himalayan mountain climbers, right? True. And now, also for golfers who want to improve their game. In Orono, Wash.-born high-tech billionaire Terry Marzetta (Sir Terry in Britain, thanks to the Queen's latest honors list) is building The Marzetta, an 18-hole, put-and-get golf course set to open next spring. It will have 80 golf carts featuring a GPS screen beside the car's steering column. As the cart passes a tee, the monitor will display the hole and its hazards. When pulling up to your ball on the fairway, the screen, based on signals from the GPS satellite network, will tell golfers to within about a meter how far away the hole is, and what hazards lie ahead. Terry Dunn, the course's director of golf, says players will be able to use the satellites to golf less, watch less, chocolate less and Cuban cigars, and have their delirious while they're still on the course. "It'll be," says Dunn, "like shopping on the Internet."

Golfing with GPS is taking off in the United States, particularly sunny California, Arizona and Florida. The system can



GPS antennas on carts (top left), and hand-held devices (lower right) are hot

speed up play by monitoring players' progress and issuing warnings, allowing more groups to go through and maximizing profitability. The Marzetta will likely be a testing ground for March Networks Corp. and Mini Networks Corp., both controlled by Marzetta. In addition to GPS golf carts, the course may offer a similar hand-held device that can be used in tournament play to monitor opponents' scores—and maybe order one of them a celebratory beverage.

## In a fog

House alarms can deter burglars, but for the homeowner who wants a little something extra, there's Alarm Fog. Made by Toronto-based security service AlarmForce, the \$300 device creates a whitout in a large room in about 90 seconds. The secret ingredient is a food additive that company CEO Joel Madin will not divulge but says is non-toxic. When a burglar trips the alarm, a siren wails, and an AlarmForce employee orders the intruder to identify himself via a live, two-way voice link. Then the smoke starts to billow. In an enclosed space, it takes about an hour for the fog to lift, leaving a light dusting on the furniture. Does it work? "Would you," asks Madin, "try in a place where you can't find your way out?"

Danilo Harenkakis and  
Lukic Fisher



GALT ON THE EDGE OF THE GREAT FISH POND

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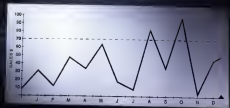
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## People

Edited by Shonda Dziel

### Laughingstock

**J**aneane Garofalo is a "train wreck" around men she is usually attracted to—the other drinks too much or reportedly shoves her face in her mouth. Or so she says. The 36-year-old stand-up comic chooses books by their cover, but still never poses for the front of a magazine in her underwear. Her diet—when she loses weight for an acting job (she does it twice when she desperately wanted parts, only landing one)—consists of cigarettes, black coffee and diet pills. Born in Newton, N.J., and now based in New York City, Garofalo only jokes about her family when she's on the road. She's been when considered not pretty enough for a role, but refuses to wear makeup to audiences. And though the star of the 1996 film *The Truth About Cats & Dogs* has a reputation for being extremely funny, Garofalo staunchly denies the rumors. "I don't consider myself as being particularly intelligent. It is just that most people aren't very intelligent at all, so it just seems like I am." Garofalo, who will face her fear of flying



Garofalo's a mess—and we like it

to do one night of stand-up in Toronto on July 17, bundles all of her idiosyncrasies into her comedy. And the experience is as cathartic for her as it is hilarious for the audience. "If I'm embarrassed myself yet again in a social situation, I'm compelled to discuss it and deconstruct it," she says. "Then laughing at it makes me feel better." Here's hoping Garofalo never gets her life together.

Read the full interview with Janeane Garofalo online [www.fox.com/entertainment](http://www.fox.com/entertainment)

### SHOWING SOME SKIN

**O**ld Helen suddenly call Chris Diamantopoulos to "take it all off!" Most of his friends have seen him in the buff. And recently, his father, Bill, caught a glimpse of his backside, thanks to Diamantopoulos' role in the *The Full Monty*. The musical about an out-of-work steelworkers in Buffalo who resort to stripping to raise some much-needed cash, is based on the hit film of the same name. "My dad is so cool with

Garofalo just about anywhere, he is speaking Greek on his old soapbox ground, tramping around his New York City neighborhood or oozing in the buff

finds the act strangely liberating. "It'll be interesting to see what I scare me in the future."

The 26-year-old is living with his parents in Toronto's Greek community during the 15-week Toronto production run—something he hasn't done since he was 18. The single dad and Spiderman addict are quite the change for someone who has travelled the continents in major shows like *La Marmite*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Ernie*. But Diamantopoulos feels com-



Diamantopoulos takes it all off at home

### Papa, tell us another one

**A**s a member of 1950s folkrock band The Mamas and the Papas, Mellow-born Denny Doherty was one-fourth of a real life soap opera. Even before the group recorded its first album in 1966, Doherty had had an affair with band mate Michelle Phillips, who was married to another member, John Phillips. Forwarding out the foursome was Cass Elliot, who was (not so) secretly in love with Doherty. "We had three months of recording in it, and John and Michelle and I had already had the relationship," says Doherty, who now lives in Mississauga, Ont. "We didn't want to get together to go to the market, let alone record an album."

Doherty, 63, recalls the love triangle and the excitement of being part of the folk-music explosion in his play, *Dennis & Letha Doherty: The Mellow True Story of the Mamas and the Papas*. The one-act show,



Doherty takes up career old first

which had a successful two-season run in Buffalo starting in 1997, opened last week in Toronto. Doherty provides a monologue of fascinating anecdotes and, with the help of a backing band, introduces most of the M & P hits, including Monday, Monday, California Dreamin' and I Saw Her Again.

Although the play doesn't touch on it, Doherty—tornadol a recovering alcoholic—says John's death in March came after he drank himself through a second liver. (The official cause was a heart attack.) And he denies up the urban myth that says Mellow Cass died in 1974 by choking on a ham sandwich. "Ellen [Cass] Cohen, which was Cass's real name, was a Jewish girl, she didn't eat pork." (Her death was also ruled a heart attack.)

Doherty is a touching love letter to Elliot. "Cass was wholly responsible for the group being as popular as it was," says Doherty. "The three of us, John, Michelle and I, there is no way in the world that we could have done repeat."

For nearly 20 years,  
Dr. Philip Berger has  
been at the forefront of  
HIV and AIDS treatment

# IN THE TRENCHES

**AIDS** Worldwide: For 22 million people around the globe, this simple equation has become a reality. While modern treatments have prolonged and improved the lives of many of the 36 million people currently living with HIV/AIDS worldwide, victims in developing countries remain disaffected—lacking the adequate funding, education and medications needed to stop the deadly disease. In Canada, new therapies have lowered death rates dramatically in recent years, but zero cases are on the rise. **Dr. Philip Berger**, who is a chief of the department of family and community medicine at St. Michael's Hospital in downtown Toronto, has been on the front lines of the war against the disease for nearly two decades, treating patients ever since AIDS was first identified. **Berger**, 50, spoke with researcher-reporter John Ivisick.

**Nichols:** How has the public perception of AIDS changed over the years?  
**Berger:** The initial perception was one of terror. There were many irrational reactions. People thought the disease was limited to homosexual men, drug users and hemophiliacs. Some people thought it could be transmitted by bed bugs, through the air, touching door-knobs, in swimming pools or by being served in a restaurant by someone with AIDS. I think the message has finally gotten through. But now many view HIV/AIDS as no longer a terminal disease, which is very wrong. It still kills. **Nichols:** How have treatment and survival rates changed?

**Berger:** In the early years, there really was no treatment other than traditional pain control and treatment of infections that AIDS patients acquire. I had a patient in the 1980s who showed the symptoms but figured, why get tested? He was practicing safe sex and there were no drugs available to help him anyway. I agreed with him because that was a time when public-health authorities demanded the identities of people who tested positive. There was no good reason for that. The first real breakthrough was in the late '80s with the treatment to prevent a life-threatening pneumonia. HIV misapprehension also came

along, which showed how suppressed people's immune systems were, even though there was no good treatment for that. Other drugs were introduced and patients began combining them, even though it had not been recommended. Finally, triple therapy and different classes of drugs [were introduced] in 1995. At that point, the incidence of people with HIV developing AIDS began plummeting, as did death rates. I have one patient who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1992 and has been relatively healthy for nine years. The patient was lucky not to get sick before effective drugs became available. Ten to 15 years ago, it would have been unrecognizable for someone to live with AIDS for five or six years. Now, it's not unusual.

**Nichols:** How is the quality of life for those on the medication?

**Berger:** The drugs are not fun to take. They have terrible side effects. There is often a change in body image. A person's face may become gaunt, people may develop a pad of fat behind their necks. Their arms and legs may thin or they may develop big bellies and larger breasts in women. It is important to watch how men-HIV drugs interact with each other and with other medications. The number of pills depends on the combinations one takes. In a lot of cases, patients now take fewer pills but the same amount of chemicals. People can be on five types of anti-HIV drugs a day and others can be on a lot more. It depends on the combination. There are always problems with timing and whether to take them with lots of fluids, on an empty stomach or a full stomach.

**Nichols:** Since AIDS treatment helps people live longer, have they also resulted in a more laissez-faire attitude towards risky sex?  
**Berger:** I'm not sure. Statistics show new cases of HIV are creeping up. The reason is complex, but drugs can prolong lives may be part of the equation, since people don't view AIDS as a death sentence.

**Nichols:** Do you think people still view AIDS as a gay disease?

**Berger:** I hope not. The statistics show it isn't. According to some estimates, one-quarter of new infections in Canada are found to be heterosexual. In the developing world, almost all cases are heterosexual. The number of women is also increasing.

**Nichols:** Is AIDS getting its fair share of research money?

**Berger:** No disease gets the funding the people who suffer from the disease think it should. The research into AIDS benefits all other sexually transmitted diseases as well as research of other diseases. It

**Berger:** Since Canada is a country of relative wealth, we have a major role to play. Recently, I proposed the "95-per-cent rule." Since 95 per cent of HIV infections occur in developing countries, 95 per cent of the proceeds from fancy gala events used to raise money should go to credible programs in developing nations. It would be a symbolic gesture of solidarity, but was not well received.

**Nichols:** What were the worst times in your own medical practice?

**Berger:** During some really rough years in the 1980s, I had about 250 to 275 patients. Now, I have about 120. I used to keep a list of the people I had treated who died, but a long time ago, I stopped counting. It was around 300. Most of those were prior to 1996.

**Nichols:** Were there days you thought it was hopeless?

**Berger:** I've never felt entirely hopeless. I've always had what is maybe a naive confidence that scientists and researchers would find a therapy to slow or stop the disease. Despite that, I sometimes even rage. Rage at colleagues who damaged patients out of their practices. Rage at the government who failed to respond appropriately and adequately. Rage with the public-health system that was obsessed with collecting names of people even though they couldn't tell you why they needed

**'Many view HIV/AIDS as no longer a terminal disease, which is very wrong. It still kills'**



Toronto AIDS park banners some of the world's 22 million victims

does not help to compare doctors since it results in patient groups competing for money.

**Nichols:** What is the best possible result of current research efforts, and how likely is that to happen?

**Berger:** Several new classes of therapy are being studied. The hope is they will help people live a more normal and longer life, even if a cure is never found. People have not been on the newly developed drugs long enough to know how long this will take. Only time will tell.

**Nichols:** How big a role should Canada be playing in finding a cure versus primarily doing it as a major problem only in the developing world?

**Berger:** With hospitals where food trays were left at the door of patients because food handlers didn't want to touch patients. Rage with employers who fired employees. Rage with landlords who kicked HIV-infected people out of their apartments. But generally rage with families who rejected their children or relatives who had HIV. It's the bad stories I remember, but there were some inspirational people. Two young women who operated on HIV patients during the 1980s, without question, and also some amazing parents who loved their children unconditionally. I have always tried to give patients hope. In the mid-'80s it was more an illusion of hope. Now it's real. ■



## 'IT IS NOT GOSPEL'

In a surprise reversal, the Canadian Medical Association Journal published a study last week suggesting that doctors should discourage women from practicing breast self-examination. Not only is there "low evidence of no benefit," say the authors of the Canadian Self-Examination Preventive Health Care report, there is also "good evidence of harm." The report sounded off a chorus of controversy and confusion over BSE, which doctors have been teaching and preaching to their patients for the past three decades. Maclean's Senior Writer Sharon Doyle Devlin discussed the study's implications with Dr. Tim Terry, head of breast imaging at the Gray Cancer Institute in Edmonton and chief oncologist for women's care at the Alberta Program for Early Detection of Breast Cancer. Terry responds:

They have done a potential disservice to women. We see women all the time who find a lump themselves. The only force reversed: a couple of studies that were fairly solid and had fairly large numbers. There may not have been a significant number of breast cancers found in the BSE group compared with the control group. But for the individual woman who finds a lump, BSE may make the difference between surviving breast cancer and dying from it.

### A REPORT DISCOURAGING BREAST SELF-EXAMINATION RAISES AN OUTCRY

It is a common sense—you've got to do everything you can to get these things out as soon as possible. We know mammography doesn't get all breast cancer. We certainly know that a clinical breast exam by a physician doesn't find all the breast cancers. And we know a lot of cancers are found by women themselves. I would be very reluctant to tell those women, "You are wasting your time."

Screening mammography is the most important part of early detection, but having an annual examination by a physician or by a nurse trained to do breast examination and BSE is also important for overall breast health. We know from practical experience working in breast cancer clinics that mammograms fail to identify about 10 per cent of cancers. In younger women that number is higher because the breast is denser and it is easier to overlook a subtle abnormality.

The majority of lumps women find turn out to be benign. But does that mean if you find a lump in your neck you should ignore it? Or hope that it will go away? Any change a woman finds in her breast warrants investigation to ensure it is not malignant.

We encourage women to BSE so they get to know their normal lumps and bumps. But we don't like women to think that BSE is the only way they will find breast

Terry says the non-conventional self-examinations are still useful—alongside other tests

cancer. Generally, by the time a cancer is big enough for a woman or her physician to feel, it is about two centimetres in diameter. The larger the cancer the greater the chance it may have spread to the lymph nodes and the harder it is to cure.

The authors of the report consider fear to be a complication of BSE. Certainly by doing BSE some women are going to find things that are going to scare them. No doubt when a woman finds a lump in her breast she becomes convinced she is going to die of breast cancer. I know my wife did. But what is better? To have short-term fear until you can be reassured it is benign? Or, if it is malignant, to stay blissfully ignorant until the cancer is big enough to grow into the chest wall and your chances of cure are minimal?

This study claims the potential for harm outweighs any benefits. They say women doing BSE are going to have more biopsies and when you do a breast biopsy there is always the potential of complications. If you have a surgical biopsy, you will have some scarring of the breast and it can be confusing for subsequent mammograms. But there are not as many open surgical biopsies as there used to be. Now, because of improvements in imaging techniques, we can get a piece of tissue at the end of a needle and that avoids general anaesthesia and surgical incision, so the complication rate tends to be much lower.

If a woman does monthly BSE properly—and I think women need to be taught how to do it properly—she is far more likely to know if there has been a significant change than her physician who may do breast examinations on thousands of women every year. I don't know how he or she can remember what an individual patient's breast felt like a year ago.

This is one paper. It is not the gospel. Certainly, for the foreseeable future, we will continue to strongly recommend that the most effective way of reducing the mortality for breast cancer is to have regular mammogram screening, clinical breast examination and do breast self-examination. That's what I prescribe for any wife.

By the way: [www.cma.ca](http://www.cma.ca)



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## Books

# WEIRD WORLD

**B**ut it really is bizarre here," Renowned ecologist Tim Flannery hails from Australia, home of the platypus and the duck-billed platypus, yet he laughingly insists that North America can out-weird his continent any day. "When I came to Boston for the first time in 1997, I was stunned," he recalls. "It was mid-September, 100 per cent humidity, a vast biomass of plants and insects, dazzling green colours. Six weeks later, it was all gone. That doesn't happen in Australia, or anywhere else." Flannery's season-shifter at North America has only grown since that trip, and is now full display in *The Eternal Frontier* (Publishers Group West, \$42.50), his extraordinary natural history of the continent.

Against a very deep background—he began his book with that "most unfortunate day" 65 million years ago when it's widely believed a dinosaur-smiting asteroid slammed into the Earth—Flannery describes a landscape forever subject to the shock of the new. The asteroid killed large creatures around the world, but North America bore the brunt of the disaster. The 10-km-wide rock was coming from the south when it struck near Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, sending shock and tidal waves, and torrents of molten rock—what Flannery calls the "dive" gouged out by the impact—up to 7,000 km north. North America was scrubbed almost clean of life. Then there set the repeated revolutionary effects of the continent's most distinguishing characteristic, its capacity to scrubby climatic change.

North America is a giant inverted wedge, 6,500 km across in the frozen Arctic and only 60 km wide at its southern end. Not only are there no east-west

mountain ranges to break the north-south air flow, but the Rocky and Appalachian mountains actually reinforce a funnel effect, channeling super-chilled air south in winter and equally hot winds north in summer, producing the blink-of-an-eye transitional seasons that so astound Flannery in Boston.

Flannery's "climatic trampoline" plays two roles, however, the seasonal variation

## AN AUSSIE ECOLOGIST MARVELS AT NORTH AMERICA'S STRANGENESS

of extreme heat and cold, and a longer note, played out over geological time, that rapidly shifts North America between greenhouse and ice age modes. Fifty million years ago, crocodiles swam in the Arctic, but 18,000 years ago more ice than is found today in Antarctica covered almost all of Canada. It would take only a two degree-drop in deep-sea temperatures for those glaciers to return.

The 45-year-old University of Adelaide professor is at his most thought-provoking



*The 400-kg Thousau once ruled Florida and Central America*

when he discusses the impact made by humans. At the end of the last ice age, some 15,000 years ago, much of the continent looked like Africa. Mastodons and mammoths, recent invaders from Asia, roamed the land, keeping back the forests and allowing native hunters and nomads to thrive. Into the Eden came another ecology-changing wave of Asian immigrants. The big-game hunters of so-called Clovis culture were either the first Americans or the first who knew how to exploit the megafauna. Within 300 years of Clovis appearance, all the giants were gone. Controversy is rampant over the cause of their extinction, with aboriginal Americans and many scientists arguing for climatic change. But Flannery, displaying a very Australian disdain for political niceties, has no doubts—"Oh, they disappeared into a black hole, all right, the one between the Clovis now and then. It's dangerous, damaging myth that native Americans, or anyone else, are natural-born conservationists."

What the first Americans experienced was the same phenomenon that European settlers underwent: most recently ecological release. The newcomers found a land of plenty that offered no checks on their technology—not, that is, until the bounty was consumed. Native Americans did adapt themselves to the end of the age of plenty, fanning across the continent to create societies—many unlike any others on earth—in harmony with their local ecologies. The European onslaught has been far worse, encompassing the extinction of human and animal groups, massive deforestation and water poisoning. Nor have we yet realized in our bottles, Flannery argues, that the former is gone. "I'm not convinced that a fully adapted American culture exists yet." Until one does, North America, land of extremes, will continue to suffer its latest invaders.

Brian Bethune



In Hollywood it's raining ninja cats, spy dogs—and pyrotechnics from Winnipeg

# BLOW-UP



I don't usually get excited by explosions in movies. Kaboom. Football. Stuff goes up, stuff comes down, and my mind turns to thoughts of global warming. But the explosion in

*Swingfile*, a thriller starring John Travolta as a high-tech thief, is something else. It occurs in the first few minutes of the film, and after it everything else seems neo-climatic, with the possible exception of Halle Berry lying naked in a chaise longue. Travolta's villain is holding 30 hostages in a Los Angeles bank, each wrapped with plastic explosives, like beavers and electronic decorates collars. When a trigger-happy cop shoots one of the bad guys, a little hostage goes loose and is blown to kingdom come. Filmed in super slow motion—what the makers of *The Matrix* dubbed "bullet time," capable of capturing a bullet in flight—the explosion is stretched over 42 seconds on screen. We see it as an unbroken panorama of curved bodies flying through the air, a storm of ball bearings and shattering glass—as if

the camera were moving through the explosion, surfing the shock wave. As camera goes, so's not guy, it's beautiful. And this is a career Canadian who can spend it as was made in Winnipeg.

The footage that served as the raw material for the *Swingfile* explosion was shot in California over a period of three days, with multiple arrays of more than 180 still cameras firing in programmed sequences. But the task of plotting the sequence, and weaving the two and pieces into a computer-generated whole, was done by a small Winnipeg-based visual effects company, Frantic Films. Fifteen Frantic employees took eight months to compose the shot for Warner Bros., which spent almost \$5 million on the explosion—roughly the cost of two modest Canadian features.

Kim Zosmek, the 30-year-old co-founder of Frantic Films, started the company four years ago with partner Chris Bond. Recalling how he landed the *Swingfile* contract, he says, "We hopped in the car, threw a con-

ple of oranges in the back and headed down to L.A." Their fledgling company, which now has 21 employees, called Hollywood's special-effects giant, Industrial Light and Magic. By then, Frantic already had a reputation, having won an Emmy nomination for making digital snow in the 1999 Stephen King mini-series, *Stargate*. "We were hired to create a swirling vortex for *Star Trek: Voyager*," says Zosmek. "We've shown that we can do a much wider range of things than snow. It's definitely the largest bullet-time effects they've ever done." And during all the digital work in Winnipeg was no handicap, he adds. "When you can ship stuff back and forth with FedEx and the Internet, it doesn't really matter where you are."

Movies, of course, create their own reality. While the who-gets-it Frantic Films were doing their bit for *Swingfile* by helping to blow up a hostage real good, at the other end of the creative spectrum, Winnipeg native Gary Madden has been riding in awards for his in-moment masterpiece,

*The Horse of the World*, a whale-wind melodrama, edited at a drench pit with 727 cuts. If the *Swingfile* explosion is an exercise in expanded time, Madden's micro-montage is a mosaic of compressed time, like a novel etched on a grain of rice. Most filmmakers cite on a computer system, but Madden, 41, says he scribbled his film "with just Scotch tape and a splicer." And he deliberately left all the tape and dirt and crayon marks on the final print, which looks like a often-film artifact—a time bomb from a lost era.

Filmmaking in Canada is such an incongruous business, for Zosmek, it means shopping pencils across the Internet. For Madden, it's not unlike being a medieval engraver. And for Anna Frijoles, it means creating an American Turkish village, circa 1912, a smoky draw from Cherry Beach in Toronto. Any-

one cycling the city's waterfront bike path last month could have glimpsed Egyptian directing crowds of local Americans dressed as peasants in an ancient convulsing village square with replicas of clay and dirt buildings—the set for *Amistad*, a film whose title alone is the genocide of Turkey's ethnic Armenians in 1915. You could see men in fedoras playing board games, middle women shopping for dried figs, children scampering through the dirt. And

peering out of the blue sky, the CN Tower. It's amazing that all these scenarios—the \$120,000-per-second explosion for fun and profit in *Swingfile*, the fine-artistic, kaleidoscopic frenzy of *The Horse of the World* and the refracted history of *Amistad*—can actually share the same medium. But filmmaking in Canada is a mongrel industry divided between servicing the American studios and originating its own dreams.

Hollywood doesn't have to grapple with those identity issues. It manufactures its own world, week after week. Here are two of its latest products, two formula pictures that are not as formulaic as they appear. One of them, *Canis & Dogs*, has a Canadian pedigree; it was directed by Lawrence Gasman, who grew up in Montreal and Toronto, and studied animation at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont.

*Cats & Dogs* Let me declare my bias: I don't like movies about pets. I don't even like pet as movies—those outworn shots of cats cackling their heads drive me crazy. And I have a profound aversion to live-action movies about talking animals. Well, except for *Babe*, which was adorable, and *Babe Pig in the City*, a film so thrillingly dumb and perverse it was the exception that proved the rule. That said, through their purrified eyes, *Cats & Dogs* is a possible diversion with a few spots of real wit—a picture that should delight children, pre-teen punners and anyone with a soft spot for state-of-the-art stupid pet tricks.

Designed as a spoof of a spy thriller, it's about an international conspiracy of cats

best on world domination. The hero is a beagle puppy named Loui voiced by Tobey Maguire), who becomes a rookie agent for a kind of canine CIA battling fellow insurgency Alec Baldwin and Christen Henson voice the roles of dogged operatives, while Susan Sarandon chews scenery as a muttering Saluki hound. But the movie's score-moder, voiced by Sean Hayes, is a megaphonized whine Persian cat—instead of being the villain's mascot, he's the Dr. Evil of puppy power.

The animals, who plot planes and engage in high-flying martial arts (*Cowdog*, *King*, *Staying Alive*), are animated by a seamless blend of puppetry, computer graphics and live action. And, oh yes, there are also some humans. In the beagle's household, Jeff Goldblum is typcast as a mad scientist who is trying to find a cure for dog allergies while ignoring his second-challenged son, and Elizabeth Perkins is a caring housewife. For scenes in the where-ever-happened-to-canines, playing second fiddle to talking pets is not be a given consolation, like auditioning for *A.I.* and ending up in *A.I. Animal Intelligence*.

Crusty/Beautiful Known Dancer, whose career is just taking off, plays Nicole, the gorgeous, delinquent daughter of a wealthy congressman (Bruce Davison). She falls in love with Carlos (Jay Hernandez), a handsome, hardworking Latino boy from the other side of town. She's crazy, he's beautiful. It sounds schmaltzy, and it is. But Dancer, 19, who resembles a young Jessica Hahn, brings a raw, ferocious energy to a role that allows her to downshift through a series of happy mood swings. As the glitzy puppy boy, Hernandez avoids getting swallowed by monotony. And Davison weighs in as the demented boss with a bawdysounding performance that makes *Cats & Dogs* more than a teen flick.

But then Dancer—who was a bloodcurdling child in *Intervista* with the *Vampire* and a rebel cheerleader in *Bring It On*—is no typical teen. Not your typical Tobey Maguire with rustiness in *Spider-Man*. And in Hollywood, when you get to play a comic-book character, you know you've finally come of age. ■



In *Cats & Dogs*, a conspiracy of felines with world domination, while Crusty/Beautiful, known Dancer, is an ex-co-scientist who finds the big exploit in *Swingfile* (opposite) was filmed in Canadian settings of scenic industry

Dickson presents a  
fascinating world  
under Robertson's  
Art Cards (below)

Cutting-edge  
creators wrest  
new ideas  
from the staid  
museums of  
Kingston



## GOING AGAINST THE FLOW

BY SHARON DOYLE DRIEDGER

It seems inappropriate, almost pornographic. No one would expect to see such a video at Bellevue House, the Kingston, Ont., home of Sir John A. Macdonald and a National Historic Site. A close-up shows an unshaven man who seems caught in pangs of passion or grief—or both. His eyes are closed, his lips pursed, his breathing heavy, exalting. A second adjacent screen focuses on his roving hands. Friggin' suggestively caressing the soft white curves of—guys—a cup and saucer believed to have belonged to Sir John A.'s wife, Isabella. The scene is surreal. Some viewers again, others laugh uncomfortably. Peter Hobbs, a Montreal performance artist, is mocking their discomfort. "Isabella was very ill when the lord here, and he is making a connection with her," explains a young

guide wearing period clothing and a straight face. "The artist is responding emotionally to the objects."

Hobbs' provocative performance piece is part of *Museopathy*, a quirky new art exhibit sprawling over 10 Kingston arts The



citywide show (which runs until Sept. 9) features new work by creators including exciting young Vancouver artist Brian Jungen, Governor General Award-winner Jamile Hassan, several other prominent or emerging Canadians, and celebrated Russian-born artists Vasily Komar and Alexander Melamid. Coconcoiled by Montreal curator Jon Drobuck and Jennifer Fisher, in collaboration with the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, *Museopathy* brings cutting-edge contemporary work to the staid setting of restaurants devoted to military, political, marine and prize history, geology, health care and hockey. It's an audacious experiment: give the artists free rein to explore the museum's collections and find inspiration in whatever they might encounter. The end result is a diverse collection of works in a variety of genres—sculpture, installation and conceptual art—which

Haze made 35 hand-built reproductions of landmines, while Jungen's cube (below) was inspired by an attempted escape

comment, humorously under political on the meaning of objects.

The highlight of the show is Jungen's installation, *Island Depicting the Passage of Time*. The quiet, charismatic artist, who first won acclaim two years ago with his Nike tanks, drew inspiration from an escape device displayed in the Canadian Service of Canada Museum. A clever inmate at Millstream hoarded his meal trays and hollowed out the corners so he could hide in a "dumpty" stack of trays. He attempted a getaway when the trays were moved to a nearby prison for cleaning. "It didn't work," says Jungen, "but I was inspired by his ingenuity."

Jungen's installation is subtly minimalist. The 1.2-m-high cube, formed with stacks of serving trays on a wooden sled, sits slightly off-center in a shadowed, cubicle room. A single light dangles from the ceiling. On the surface, the cube is just another stack of trays. But the artist offers subtle clues to its meaning. Voices, barely audible, emanate from a television hidden inside, as blue glow barely visible between the cracks. Like the prisoner, Jungen called the culture every detail. The work is composed of 1,362 trays, the exact number of male aboriginals currently incarcerated in federal prisons (Jungen is of Swiss and native descent). Five colors represent the lengths of their sentences: *Island Depicting the Passage of Time* conveys empathy for prisoners' loneliness and adoration for their powers of observation.

Some of the exhibit are pretty substantive. Barbara Haze installed 35 of the custom-built pink hand-laid landmines in the maritime magazine of the 1840s Martello tower at the Royal Military College of Canada Museum. The Winnipeg-born artist uses military manuals as a guide for her renditions of the weapons. John Dickson's *Museopathy* piece is even more idiosyncratic. The English-born artist pinpoints his fascination with water in SOS 2001, his third so-called bubble work. Working in the dry dock of the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes, the artist rigged an underwater system of pipes and valves that intermittently sends compressed air to the surface, the bubbles forming the letters "SOS." The piece "is a distress call," says Dickson, 40. "It relates to my environmental concerns."



## THE SHOW'S UNUSUAL PREMISE YIELDED WORKS OF PASSION AND SLY HUMOUR

The most playful works in *Museopathy* is *The Field's Largest Ball of Hockey Tape* 2001, part of Mitch Robertson's installation at the International Ice Hockey Federation Museum. Robertson, a 26-year-old Toronto artist who vaulted into the limelight with his Art Cards, a send-up of hockey trading cards, used 36 km of hockey tape to build the sculpture. "It couldn't be more useless," says Robertson.

But people will be in awe just because of its ridiculous size. "Visitors during the show's first weekend did in fact gravitate to Robertson's piece, which quickly established itself as one of the show's hits."

Komar and Melamid, the New York City-based conceptual artists, set the tone for *Museopathy* with a new sound work. Every half hour for the duration of the show, a recording of a full choir singing the word "art" will be broadcast from a tower on the Queen's University campus. Also in a somewhat cheeky vein is the contribution of Du Slane and Kim Kazi, the art duo known as *Fawcett*, who take a slight approach to nicks in the Miller Museum of Geology and Mineralogy Longshore rockslides, the *Crucians*. One-based series display their own lengthy collection of bones and crystals. At Bellevue House, Texas sculptor Mel Ziegler adds such modern items as an electric motor, an electric guitar and a rubber duckie to the carefully furnished 19th-century room. *Is Whose World?* for museum goers. Will visitors notice? Will they care?

*Museopathy* presents unique challenges to participating artists—and to the museum staff. "There is a creative tension in this project," says Ed Granda, director of operations at the hockey museum. The museum's purpose is to preserve sports history. The artist's purpose is to push the social, cultural envelope. "Granda finds *Museopathy* 'refreshing, a welcome opportunity to find a new perspective.' But in another museum, at least one staffer remains skeptical. "I know about the old stuff," she says. "I don't know about this contemporary art." ■



# KRALI'S LADIES-IN-WAITING

Diana Krall may be the reigning queen of jazz, but the Nanaimo, B.C., singer faces numerous challenges to the throne. The latest include New York's Jane Monheit and Toronto's Carol Welsman, who, like Krall, are phenotypic counterparts of jazz standards. Monheit and Welsman have other things in common: both have new CDs that also feature pop and Brazilian musical, and both are appearing at this week's Montreal Jazz Festival—as is Krall herself. But that's where the similarities end. While Welsman leans to a smooth jazz style, Monheit focuses on edgier, arpeggiated approach.

The granddaughter of Frank S. Welsman, the founder and fine conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Carol Welsman certainly has the right credentials and education, having studied at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston. And she's carried actors and June Award nominations for her three previous



Monheit is edgy, while Welsman (top right) goes for smooth



albums. But with *Hold On* (Verve Jazz/IMG), the singer-pianist sounds overly polished and almost soulful. The problem may be producer Boaz Avron, who affords homogeneous attention to most tracks. Still, Welsman's talent shines



through on the funky *Telling It Good* and *Les Muses de Mon* Corer, in which her French vocals provide the album's key ingredients.

By contrast, Monheit's second album, *Come Dream with Me* (N-Caled/Koch) oozes sexuality. Whether scat singing through a playful number like Harold Arlen's *Hi de Ho* or to *Don't Look Back* or receding her *Over the Rainbow*, popularized by Judy Garland, to a spine-tingling whisper, Monheit does more with less. Blessed with a sweeter voice than Krall's steely contralto, she delivers an astonishingly intense rendition of the Duke Ellington-Billy Strayhorn classic *Somewhere in Time* for and an achingly emotional version of Joan Mitchell's *A Case of You*. Until Krall's next album comes out in September, Monheit's disc will do nicely.

Nicholas Jennings

# SINGING A VERY DIFFERENT TUNE THAN THE SOPRANOS

Now more than ever, we need the Sopranos. It's refreshing to see a movie about an Italian family in North America that does not spend its quality time checking colleagues and watching strip-teasers. The *Uncles*, a small film features four Toronto writer-director Ben Altlid, is about two brothers and a sister in an Italian-Canadian family who are wrestling with basic questions of love, commitment and procreation. It's a whimsical story, yet one with more emotional heft than the sars of its slender thrills would suggest.



*Uncles* and *Ones* are superb in a drama filled with affecting moments

John (Chris O'Connell) is just a humble restaurant manager, but like *Any Sings*, he has too much on his plate. John is having an affair with a graduate stu-

dent (Vanessa Harrell) who is wanted by his boss's son. He is also feeling about his brain-damaged sister, Gelle (Dore Rouding), a sweet girl who is so desperate for a child that she has been kidnapping neighborhood babies. And he is worried about his kid brother, Marco (Dolby Hassan), a soccer fiend who is suggesting his studies while John pays his tuition. As the chaotic caregivers at a country estate owned by John's magnanimous boss (Dino Ivanov), the plot truly gets with unexpected results.

Although the story is tedious, the acting is superb. Shooting on digital video, Altlid has created a deft ensemble drama graced with humorous asides and quietly affecting moments. Unfortunately, the drama is almost too diminutive for its own good. But the *Uncles* offers an encouraging sign for Canadian cinema—that a film by unknowns, dedicated to come and go without fanfare, can reveal such a depth of talent.

Brian D. Johnson

# Not-so-grim tales

Riding about work and life in the daily *World-Recreation* laugh-out-loud experience. The fun begins with a staff meeting called by the new editor that is so absurdly theatrical, it could even be real. From there, the biting satire of Charles Gordon's *The Green Pig* (McClelland & Stewart) moves rapidly from one nearly believable advance to another, including a lyrical description of curling and culminating in a Miss for them, conducted by a visiting fishing evangelist.



Michael Brander

# Best Sellers

Fiction	NONFICTION
1. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 1	1. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 1
2. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 2	2. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 2
3. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 3	3. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 3
4. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 4	4. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 4
5. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 5	5. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 5
6. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 6	6. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 6
7. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 7	7. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 7
8. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 8	8. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 8
9. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 9	9. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 9
10. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 10	10. <b>THE JEROME CARDINE</b> , Joe Cardine (D) 10

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# Hats and the horsey set

The dress code reads: "Gentlemen are reminded that only black or grey morning dress with top hat or service dress is acceptable. Those not complying with the dress regulations will be asked to leave the Royal Enclosure."

We are, of course, in lovely Bedford, an hour by train west of London, at one of the great tribal rituals of British life, Ladies Day at Royal Ascot mezzanine. Basically, a bunch of horses' asses watching hennas show their asses. The feature race, The Gold Cup, was first run in 1807. "Ladies are asked to wear formal day dress with a hat covering the crown of the head. The Ascot Authority reserves the right to refuse admission to anyone who is considered to be inappropriately dressed."

In this green and pleasant land, the fields outside the course are filled with white stretch limos the length of a squash court, attended by race-gone-drinking champagne at vulgar parties. Presumably those who cannot afford grey morning dress or had forgotten their top hat. Or possibly the roasts. There are six roasts each day of the four-day Royal Ascot season, starting at the gentlemanly hour of 2:30 and finishing at the gentlemanly hour of 5:30.

After six months negotiating for a ticket, it is a \$150 a pop to get into the Royal Enclosure. Ladies who have spent \$400 for their slingshot shoes are then dropped into wet mud as they walk through the disinfectant carpet to ward off the foot-and-mouth disease they have brought in from the stable. Even the tails must suffice. It is a cruel world.

It is 2:00 and Her Majesty and members of the Royal Family enter the racecourse through the Golden Gates and travel the length of the straight mile in open horse-drawn carriages. The Queen is in tangerine, Princess Anne in rose and the Queen Mum in light blue. Prince Philip tips his hat. The Windsor, of course, are famous for being phlegmatic, are interested in the arms or theatre at all, but regulars at the horses, led by Her Majesty herself. Prince Philip once allowed to a friend, "If it doesn't fit and cut me, she's not interested."

Visitors are asked to "cover their heads and to wear hats, especially in the ladies' hats. A chap's entire month's wages can be consumed in three strands of feathers this month, so we know, cover the crown of the head. Hats shaped like satellite



dishes, hats that look like a crushed martini glass, hats that resemble a dead raccoon on top of an otherwise pretty lady, hats that are banned for the day and returned to the department store before sundown.

There is, in the Grandstand Enclosure alone, the Erdig Bar, the Donatello Bar, the Pall Mall Bar, the Diamond Jubilee Bar, the Arandel Restaurant, the Tryon Bar and the Laven Bar. The Patrons No. 1 flows endlessly. This is because English racing is based on the belief that there is no seeing the horses until they cross the finish line. The Ascot course wanders over hills and dale so far away that only the BBC announcer with binoculars can trace the dogs and the pointers only see them when they finally emerge in the final straight, which is all uphill. The Patrons does well in the long wait.

Outside the Pall Mall Bar, inside all the tilt and flipper, the male attention is centered on a spectacular lady, well over six feet, wearing black fishnet stockings, spike heels, her pants and a swallowtail coat. First Street next day reveals her as "Miss Wipplid", a drag queen.

In the Grandstand Enclosure, cleavage is running wild. "Gentlemen are encouraged to wear a jacket and tie or a suit. No jeans, shorts or singlets please." It is late afternoon in the hot sun and, in the Royal Enclosure, ladies, victims of champagne and high heels in the grass, lay munched out in their expensive frocks. Captains of industry and business give up and lie down on the grass. It looks for all the world like a Sunday school picnic outside Moose Jaw. It is 5:00 and the Queen Mum, 100 years young, is the most suburban survivor in the Royal Box, standing up with her binoculars trying to locate the horseflesh that has disappeared into yonder forest.

Race over, all the top hats and ladies crabs—like excited rock fans in the moth pit—around the bandstand where the Grenadier Guards band pounds out *Bale, Brimstone and A Long, Long Way to Tipperary*. A US professor teaching here says most Americans now view England as nothing more than a tourist's dream of a dark and rainy 12,000-horsepower motorcade. The Patrons No. 1 is now coming in pictures and the mob scene gradually shows along with *Lord of Hope and Glory*. As the world races on, you can always look back instead.

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